Inside the tabloid NEW SECTION





TABLOID: FASHION

Tories torn by agonising choice

'It is hard to

see how either

man can hold

this together'

Andrew Marr,

page 23



Anthony Bevins Colin Brown and Fran Abrams

Right-wing Conservative MPs were left last night with an agonising choice for their party leadership: Kenneth Clarke, whose views they do not share on Europe, or William Hague, who is not respected by the

purist Euro-sceptics. In yesterday's inconclusive second-round ballot, Mr Clarke got 64 votes, up 15 on last week's first round; Mr Hague got 62, up by 21; and John Redwood won 38, an

additional 11 votes. As runner-up, Mr Redwood is auto-matically eliminated, leaving Mr Clarke and Mr Hague to fight it out for the Redwood vote. Some MPs immediately switched to Mr Clarke, others to Mr Hague, while others spoke of abstention. But the essential

agony of the Redwood vote was summed up by James Cran, a Euro-sceptic MP who originally voted for Michael Howard and who backed Mr Redwood yesterday. He said of Mr Hague: "There is one candidate who has got the right agenda but I'm not sure he is a heavy hitter in the House, which the leader of

the Opposition has to be. And then I've got another candidate who is a heavy hitter but who hasn't got the right agenda, particularly on Europe. So I have got a classical dilemma to resolve by sometime on Thurs-

day morning."
It is possible that so many Euro-sceptics could abstain in tomorrow's final ballot that the new leader might be left without the 83-plus votes needed to give him the support of a majority of the 164 Tory MPs.

The man who comes top of the ballot in such circumstances would win the leadership - but he would be so damaged that he could not be expected to survive for the rest of the Parliament. That result could raise the real prospect of yet another Tory lead-ership challenge, once new rules had been set up to give party members a vote for the

It might also increase the temptation for the former Cabinet ministers Michael Portillo and Chris Patten to seek a return to the Commons, to stage a more clear-cut

Last night, the torn loyalties of the Redwood vote turned to angry exchanges in Commons corridors. One Redwood supporter said he would wait until Mr Redwood had given a lead, but another Redwood vot-

sa Gorman was hinting at. Julian Lewis, who voted for Mr Redwood, said he was thinking of abstaining. "John Redwood has shown tremendous honour and clarity but the party has decided not to go down that

John Townend, chairman of the rightwing 92 Group, said he would be writing a letter to all group members today, urging them to vote for Mr Hague.

"If the right can't get its act together over this we might as well pack up," he said. "One candidate is a Europhile and sup-ported by the left. William Hagne is on the centre right, and in the last two weeks he has taken a much tougher position on Europe. His views are more in line with John

Mr Redwood was last night holding urgent talks with his campaign team at the Commons, amid speculation that he would be offered a key role in the

Shadow Cabinet by Mr Clarke.

One of Mr Clarke's back ers said: "Ken is cutting not fine deals, but he recognises that on domestic policy, education and health. Mr Redwood is putting some interesting ideas forward which will be taken up." Michael Heseltine warned

again last night that while Mr Clarke was offering unity, and the inclusion of all strands of thinking in his frontbench team - that was not on offer from Mr Hague. Referring to Mr Hague's threat to ex-

clude anyone who did not toe his line in opposition to the single currency, Mr Heseltine said: "It is wrong for a potential leader to lay down terms which must divide the party, by definition, that excludes a significant part of Conservative thinking.

However, Peter Lilley, who backed Mr Hague after dropping out of the contest in the first round, said last night that he believed his candidate could unite the party around a Euro-sceptic stance.

"I think the party as a whole will have no difficulty with the position William Hague has spelt out, of ruling out membership of the single currency in the next Parliament. That was the direction we were moving in, and I am sure that will be acceptable to the

whole bulk of the party," he said. The result led to clashes outside committee room 14, where Tory MPs had trooped in all day to vote. One Clarke supporter angrily protested to a Hague campaigner that Mr Clarke would be excluded from a Hague Shadow Cabinet.

But in a clear sign that the Hague camp were trying to win back some Clarke votes, he was assured: "It's a technicality."



'If this were a serious party, then

An eager young journalist, weight behind William Hagne in standing in the committee cortice second round. After all, ridor vesterday afternoon. asked Tory MP James Cran how he had voted in round two of the leadership election. "Sod off", replied the graceless Eurosceptic, and scuttled away crossly. And sod off, as it turns out, is exactly what he and many of

aredon seit

his colleagues did vote for. If the Conservatives were a setest would have ended last night. Unable to stomach Ken Clarke (the adult choice), 20 or so of the less ideological Redwood supporters - knowing after the first ballot that he could never occur overselves. Instead, the division usher in a period of infighting workers' councils. So for three ex Tory student John Bercow. a week. Whoopee, win - would have thrown their

their man had already proved (by beating both Lilley and Howard) that he was the champion of the Tory right, and had ensured that his views on matters European would have to be consulted by the new leader. What was now important was the manner of a Hague victory.

But this does not appear to rious political party (like Labour say, or Natural Law) this conshould be so small and unrepresentative, and that the voting method should be so arcane. These legacies of two complacent decades might just have

of the votes ensures that Mr Hague, should he emerge victorious tomorrow, manages both to look like everyone's second choice and - simultaneously a prisoner of the Redwood ite right. It is hard to imagine a result that could have made Hague's accession seem less assured, short of making him

pose naked on top of the statue of Richard the Lionheart. If nothing else though, the "sod off" vote has resolved one question that has been lying around since the election; was this Tory defeat more akin to the Labour debacle of 1979, or that of1983? Would it be the beginning of a process of renewal, or



DAVID AARONOVITCH

and political cretinism? In 1979, following the 30-seat Thatcher victory, a large section of the Labour Party (and, to an extent, people like me) got it into their heads that the problem had been an absence of socialist zeal. What was needed was import controls, increased taxation and

same cosmos as each other. The landslide defeat of 1983 cured most Labour supporters of these delusions. They set out on the Kinnockite voyage to dock once more with the voters. But it took 14 more years and many shed tears to succeed.

Right now the momentum in the Tory parliamentary party is with the zealots. The youngest, most vigorous members are on the right. There is no Labour equivalent of such strange young grey-haired fundamentalists as Territorial Army officer and Prayer Book Society member Desmond Swayne, or

years the party and the elec- Emboldened by the suicidal torate ceased to exist in the support of great Conservative spapers, they are optimistic that they can at worst affect, and at best inherit. The rest of us

know that they can only destroy. After the figures were an-nounced Mr Hague swept for-ward to the waiting cameras at the St Stephen's entrance. But he could not tell a tale of determination and change, nor outline his strategy for taking the party from woe to weal. No. umph: "I'm delighted to have the support of 62 colleagues and to have gained more support over the last week than any oth-

Schools plan classroom timeshare

Lucy Ward Education Correspondent

A council is so short of school places it is considering splitting the school day into two and sending children to lessons in

Early shift pupils in Enfield, north London, would start lessons at 7.45am, while those on the late shift would not leave school until 7.45pm

The scheme, one of a range of options being considered by the authority to counter a looming shortfall of hundreds of secondary places, would create a logistical nightmare for parents, who could be forced to drop off and collect primary and

secondary-age children at dif-ferent times. Meanwhile, lateshift pupils would end up walking home well after night-

The scheme is already being challenged by governors and heads. One primary school parent governor said. The mind boggles at the logistics, let alone the difficulties it would make for the teaching staff and parents.

Would there be teams of cleaners whizzing round the school between sessions, as bappens with charter flights?"

Enfield is not alone among London boroughs and other urban authorities in facing a places shortage, although no other local education authori-

mally considered a shift system. Its proposals will raise fresh concerns over how best to man-

age schools admissions, which were widely deregulated under the Conservative government in the name of offering parents a choice of schools. Enfield's schools are over-

subscribed partly because many children attend from outside the borough. A recent Audit Commission survey found that one in five parents is denied their first choice of school, rising to one in two in London.

Enfield LEA's suggestion is one of eight options out for consultation to schools and governors in the borough, to counter

ty is understood to have for- a projected shortfall of 200 places for children transferring to secondary school in September 1998, worsening to 400 places by 1999.

The authority insists it has no money to provide new school buildings to accommodate the extra pupils, and claims it has failed to win government approval for borrowing to cover the costs, because the bidding criteria involved are "too insensitive".

The places shortfall has come about through a combination of factors, the LEA says, including a rise in the number of schoolpupils coming to its secondary number, or farming out sixth-

schools from neighbouring au-

The proposed shift system, which is based on a model operating in some parts of Canada and the US, would allow the authority to double the number of pupils educated in the same building, the consultation document says.

By holding two sessions, starting at 7.45am and 2pm, schools would also remove the responsibility for providing funches for pupils.

Other options for accommodating more pupils, without adding buildings, include inage children in the borough and creasing the numbers of chil-the increasing numbers of dren per class over the agreed

form provision to colleges or alternative rented buildings.

Helen Osman, a parent govemor at Grange Park Primary School whose nine-year-old daughter. Nicola, is due to move to secondary school in two years' time, said any further enlargement of class sizes risked damaging children's education, while a shift system would cause logistical chaos for families.

Councillor Achilles Georgiou, chair of Enfield's education committee, said the authority had taken a responsible attitude to planning places but had suffered through government refusal to grant permission to horrow cash for

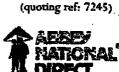
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Microsoft on the move A Cambridge University professor of computer science is the reason behind Microsoft's decision to invest £50m over the next five years, reating a "silicon fen." Page 3

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significant shorts

Acas plans quick-fix system for job grievances

Britain's government-funded industrial peacemakers are planning a fast-track route to resolving grievances as the number of individual employment rights cases reached a new record.

The conciliation service Acas has been asked by the Government to work out the practicalities of a quick-fix system for sorting out individual cases. Ministers are keen to cut a swathe through the long queue of cases for industrial tribunal hearings, where a waiting period of six weeks is common. The plan for an alternative system for sorting out grievances emerged as the Acas annual report showed that employment rights cases had exceeded 100,000 for the first time. The figure has increased for the ninth successive year since 1987 when it was 40,817.

Officials at Acas envisage a new system in which hearings would last around half a day - unlike the weeks at tribunals - and that there would be a result within a fortnight. If a case goes into the industrial tribunal labyrinth, it can take years to emerge.

Police warning over new ecstasy

Police last night warned of a new type of the rave drug ecstasy as a teenage boy remained seriously ill in hospital.

Andrew Woodlock, 13, of New Stevenston, Lanarkshire, is said to still be in a "critical" condition. Two other youngsters were also taken to Monklands District General Hospital for treatment, and have since been discharged. A 13-year-old boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, and 19-year-old Steven MacFarlane, of Holytown, Lanarkshire, appeared on petition at Hamilton Sheriff Court yesterday in connection with the incident.

Strathclyde Police have described the new variant of the drug, which has been discovered in the Lanarkshire area, and say the tablets are diamond shaped, off-white in colour and have a small line through the centre. Superintendent lain Gordon said: "If offered tablets, please remember that you have no way of knowing where the tablet originated from, or what is contained in it."

BA settles French airport dispute

British Airways' dispute with French airport authorities over

security is over, the airline announced yesterday.

BA had been angry that Air Algerie, a potential target for Islamic fundamentalists, was allowed to open a check-in desk within yards of its own at Charles de Gaulle Airport. However, BA announced yesterday that the row, which began in April, had been resolved after Aeroports de Paris agreed to allow the British airline move its own check-in facilities.

Taking a virtual voyage into history



Visitors to the Natural History Museum in London will tomorrow be invited on a virtual voyage with the 18thcentury explorer Captain James Cook in an experiment which could foreshadow the future of museum galleries.

The exhibit, open until 31 August, uses 3D computer generation to recreate the voyage of the captain's ship HMS Endeavour, during which he discovered New Zealand. Using a joystick, visitors will be

able to navigate the interior of a 3D reconstruction of the vessel. Entitled "Virtual Endeavour", the exhibit is financed by the European Commission. An Internet site showing scenes from the exhibition is accessible on http://www.nhm.ac.uk/SICMA/promo.

Mother jailed for killing son

A mother who killed her four-year-old son by poisoning him with salt was jailed for life yesterday.

Caroline Lloyd, who fed her son salt in his fizzy drinks for 10

days until he eventually died, was suffering from Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy, Oxford Crown Court was told; her personality disorder was so severe that it would be untreatable in hospital, psychiatrists said in reports. Lloyd started lacing her son's drinks on 19 February. Stuart Lloyd, her husband and Christopher's stepfather, became worried about the boy's health and took him to four GPs and a hospital during the following week - but none diagnosed the problem. Christopher died on 1 March. Lloyd, who was arrested on 5 March, told officers: "I never wanted him to die. I just wanted him to feel poorly. It was the only way I could cope."

Shop assistant dies after thief chase

A shop assistant died after chasing a man who grabbed a lamp and ran away from a lighting shop. Peter Healey, 48, of Melksham in Wiltshire, collapsed after chasing the suspected shoplifter out of Lighting Direct in Weston-super-Mare, and along the High Street. Mr Healey, who leaves a wife and a 16-year-old son, was found a few minutes later collapsed near his car at the back of the shop; he was thought to have suffered a heart attack. A 32-year-old man from Weston-super-Mare has been arrested and is in custody being interviewed by police.

Factory worker wins RSI damages

A former clothing factory worker whose job left her permanently disabled and in constant pain was last night celebrating a £54,000 award. Sewing machinist Michelle Hardy, 26, from Jarrow, south Tyneside, won the out of court settlement after Claremont Garments accepted liability for the tenosynovitis - repetitive stress injury - which has prevented her from working since 1991. No one at Claremont Garments was available for comment last night.

Rory Bremner bats for BBC deal

After Fantasy Football League, the television series, cricket is the latest sport to come in for the comedy treatment. Comedian and impressionist Rory Bremner has signed a deal to record two cricketing specials for the BBC it was announced yesterday. Bremner, who is a life-long cricket fan and who does a famously drawling Richie Benaud, will do a satirical commentary on some of the final matches of the season, including the current series against Australia. Guests and a show format are being finalised. Paul McCann

For sale: £500,000 silver turtle

A George II soup tureen modelled in the form of a turtle, which was found at the back of a dining-room cupboard during a routine valuation, is to be sold at auction on 9 July for an estimated price of up to £500,000. The tureen, which was made in 1750 and which has not been seen in public for 50 years, has been described as the "silver discovery of the decade". Christie's silver specialists in London realised that the turtle, found by chance in the French city of Bordeaux, was a legendary work - presumed to have been lost by the English silversmith Paul de Lamerie.



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END OF THE AFFAIR: It was the Tinselbown romance that had kept even the most cynical of New Yorkers cooling.

Brail Pitt, the celluloid superhunk with a home in lower Manhattan, had finally snared his blonde grifflend,
Gwyseth Paltrow, with a marriage proposal on Thanksgiving Day. Yesterday, the tabloids broke the news—"It's
the Pitts", bland the New York Post—Brad and Paltrow are splitting. Worry not for the folk of New York,
however. Only one thing delights them more than a Hollwood love affair—a Hollwood break-up. David Usborne.

Serota defends all-women Turner Prize shortlist

Mr Serota, director of the Tate Gallery and chairman of the judges for the £20,000 prize for contemporary art, said: "Much of the most challenging work that is being produced in Britain today is by woman artists."

As revealed in The Independent on Monday, the shortlist for the prize consists of installation and video artists

Christine Borland, Angela Bulloch, Cornelia Parker and Gillian Wearing.
Last year the Turner Prize shortlist consisted of four

men, and Mr Serota and the judges suffered stinging criticism from female critics and artists. But at a press conference vesterday he said this criticism had not influenced the decision this year.

He said: "The jury had no plans at the outset to make surprise. It was perhaps a surprise that there were none then removed them. A spotlight directed at the glass left on the list last year. But the fact that it happens to be a negative of the bones on the wall. David Lister

Furner Prize chairman Nicholas Serota yesterday defended the all-women shortlist for this year's gence of women in British culture over the last 10 years."

There is also, conspicuously, no painter on the list. Mr Serota admitted: "Painters have not figured on the Turner shortlist in the 1990s. It is quite possible they will

> Another of the judges, Lady Marina Vaizey, said: "Most people feel that the most interesting work is taking place In installation and video work." The other members of the 1997 jury are: Penelope Curtis, curator of the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds; Lars Nittve, director of the

figure in the next decade.

Louisiana Museum in Denmark; and Jack Wendler, representative of the Patrons of New Art. Of this year's shortlist, video artist Gillian Wearing filmed confessions by people wearing grotesque joke shop masks; Cornelia Parker exhibited the actress Tilda Swinton in a glass case; Angela Bulloch had a contraption called Mud Stinger at the Henry Moore studio in Ha a shortlist that was for women artists. There are a num- Christine Borland erected 21 glass panels, on each she ber of women artists making very good work. It's not a placed a group of bones, sprinkled them with dust and

Graf must go to prison

German prosecutors deatt injured tennis star Steffi Graf a new blow yesterday when they said her father would go to jail in the next two months, for at least a year, for millions of marks of tax evasion. Prosecutors and defence lawvers both said they had withdrawn their appeals challenging the verdict against Peter Graf, 58, handed down by a court in Mannheim in January, meaning the sentence is now legally binding.

The court sentenced Graf to three years and nine months after convicting him of evading and trying to evade 12 million marks in taxes on Steffi's earnings, but he was freed pending the appeals. Prosecutors, who originally deemed the sentence too lenient.

said they had dropped an appeal

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Mesterday's Readings

The Midlands, East Anglia and south-east England should have a

mostly dry day with hazy sunshine and isolated showers, but it will

will have sunstaine this morning, but rain will reach the west by

evening, and showers may break out elsewhere. Scotland and

Northern Ireland will be mainty cloudy with rain, especially in

turn overcast lowards evening. Wales, western and northern England

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to complete the remaining part of his sentence. Because the taxes were already paid long ago, the matter will soon be laid to rest." Graf's lawyer, Franz Salditt, said. The decision provides another setback to the former world number one, who is out of action because of a serious knee injury.

because they had found no legal

errors in the court's written verdict.

"Peter Graf has prepared himself

Her father has been the most important figure in the life of the 28year-oldf, who first started playing the game when she was hardly bigger than a tennis racket. Prosecutor Horst Kuehner said It would be six to eight weeks before Peter Graf would have to go to prison because of legal formalities

Protester heads off for fresh tunnels

Protester Matt Benson, who spent 17 nights in a tunnel at the site of Manchester Airport's second runway, yesterday promised to break his own record for staying under-

Mr Benson, 23, rescued yesterday after a collapse in the tunnel in the Bollin Valley, Cheshire, said he was determined to take part in

other tunnel protest *Next time it will be longer than 17 days," he said. "With the knowledge we have gained I think we can build tunnels which are unevictable." He said he became depressed down the 50ft-deep Cakehole tunnel at the end of the protest, when he was left alone after his companions gave up.

Lunchtime becomes an endangered ritual

Lunch is once again for wimps, according to a new report which found that nearly one in three workers said they never took a lunch break - four times the number in 1990. The annual Eurest Lunchtime Report found that women were the worst affected, with

35 per cent saying they never stopped for lunch.

More than half said they were under at least as much pressure at work as they were during the recession. Older workers - 55 and older - took the shortest hunches, with 70 per cent gulping down their food in 30 minutes or less. The average worker now takes 33 minutes for lunch - two-and-a-half minutes less than at the

beginning of the decade. More than eight out of 10 of us never drink at hunchtime - 15 per cent less than in 1990 - and we spend on average £1.45 on our

The Eurest Lunchtime Report is available from Jane Crocker, Eurest, Queen's Wharf, Queen Caroline Street, London, W6 9RI
Glenda Cooper

TRANSPORT

Strong support for phones ban

Four out of five people want drivers to be banned from using hand-held mobile phones in their cars, according to a survey published today by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. RoSPA has stepped up its campaign for a change in the law after recent high-profile cases such as the businessman jailed for causing the death of another motorist just after using his mobile

The roads minister, Baroness Hayman, has said she would consider introducing a specific han, as well as inserting a warning in the Highway Code and telling mobile phone retailers to caution customers about the dangers of using telephones while driving.

Fifty per cent of those polled said the use in cars of any mobile phone – including hands-free versions – should be outlawed, while seven in 10 people said they had seen people driving dangerously while using a mobile phone.

A total of 1,445 people were surveyed in the NOP Solutions poll, with 92% saying they believed hand-held mobile phones were dangerous and 55% saying that using a hand-free phone while driving was also unsafe.



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BUSINESS

Labour wins boardroom approval

The business world is "bubbling with enthusiasm" about the economic prospects of the first 12 months of the new Labour Government, according to a survey published today. A record number of UK financial chiefs and company directors - 78 per cent - were "fairly or very optimistic" about the outlook for their businesses in the year ahead. Two-thirds were equally bullish about the fortunes of the UK as a whole.

The poll of 250 directors within manufacturing, the service industries and the public sector by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants was the most optimistic since it began in

One CIMA member told the survey: "It's a new era, a new government, the interest rate increase will put a hold on inflation. It's a good climate for trading activity."

SCIENCE

A piece of the Martian meteorite said to contain signs of life will be the star attraction at the Royal Society's annual science exhibition today. The tiny fragment will be under a binocular

microscope with the image displayed on a screen.

It will not be possible to see the minute bacteria-like objects that sbook the scientific world last year, because they are too small. But the display, jointly presented by the Open University, Manchester University and the Natural History Museum, is expected to attract

a lot of attention. The sliver of rock is from the meteorite ALH 84001, in which Nasa experts found minute structures thought to be micro-fossils, the fossilised remains of primitive organisms.

The meteorite was originally blasted off the surface of Mars by an impacting asteroid or comet before drifting in space for millions of years and then being drawn into the Earth's

stones at Nakhla in Egypt in 1911 - allegedly killing a dog - is also exhibited. A piece of another Martian meteorite that fell in a shower of

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Reuters

Much of England and Wales will have a dull and showery start. The west should see sunny spells and scattered heavy showers by the afternoon. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cool with lamited sun and plenty of heavy showers, and longer spells of rain are likely in northern and eastern Scotland in the morning. The cool and very



unsettled weather will continue on Friday and over the weekend Out and about with Carl 0335 401777 for the latest local and rebonat traffic Source The Afdroundaid Association Call dial Stip per min at all forces (Ans VAT).

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# Microsoft's £50 million brain

# Computing giant sets up in Cambridge for the sake of one man

Charles Arthur Science Editor

If Roger Needham were a footballer, rock star or supermodel, then probably nobody would be surprised that an international company intends to invest £50m over the next five years to build on his talents.

But Mr Needham is neither: he is a 62-year-old professor of computer science at Cambridge University's computer laboratory, who has worked on the subject since 1956. And the company making the investment is Microsoft - the biggest software company in the world. But the outcome could be to make Britain pre-eminent in computer software in Europe

Microsoft announced vesterday that it intends to establish a research arm in Cambridge, hiring up to 50 specialists in computing from all over Europe and investing £10m in a venture capital fund, to be run by the entrepreneur Hermann Hauser, which should create a "Silicon Fen" - a breeding ground for high-tech companies and expertise like Silicon Valley in western California.

This is the first time Microsoft has set up such an establishment away from its headquarters in Redmond in Washington State. Until now, its UK operation has consisted almost entirely sales and marketing staff.

The intention of the new centre is to develop the new generation of computers - able to listen and speak, and see what is going on around them. "Computers today are pretty inflexible," said Nathan Myhrvold, Microsoft's chief technology officer - one of the most powerful people in the corporation besides its cofounder and chief Bill Gates. "To make computers evolve as a tool we need to invent new technologies."

Professor Needham said: "There's a rich area to mine in this field - but you should realise that new computer small software companies didn't products are a long time in the have the connectivity with the bigpipeline. The things that are on every desk today, such as a mouse, were

developed in research 20 years ago."

Many new technologies, such as picture and speech recognition, are able to attract more talent into already being developed at the laboratory in Cambridge under Profes-sor Needham. His presence was key to Microsoft's decision. The corporation decided earlier this year to expand its research and development division, on which it already spends \$2hn (£1.25bn) annually. It had bare-

ly begun the process of investigating possible locations - such as Boston, where the prestigious Massachu-setts Institute of Technology (MIT) Media Laboratory is based - when Mr Myhrvold heard that Professor Needham was not presently attached to any industrial work.

"We did consider a number of places, and Cambridge was at the top of the list," said Mr Myhrvold, who took a postgraduate course at Cambridge University in 1983. "It fell into place." Professor Needham commented simply, "When they found I was available, they basically shortcircuited the shortlist process."

While that might sound arrogant, he has been in the forefront of computer research for decades, and can reel off a list of products and systems such as local-area networks, en-crypted password files and sorting algorithms which he helped develop and are now in common use. Microsoft tried to recruit him seven years ago, offering to set up a research laboratory on the American west coast which he could run. He turned the offer down. Now Microsoft has come to him.

The new laboratory, to be called Microsoft Research, will house a mixture of Microsoft employees, students and people on sabbatical.

The investment sparked by Professor Needham could drive an entire industry in the area. Microsoft has made millionaires of many of its employees, who are given lucrative stock options in return for the hectic lives they have to lead, under high pressure to produce results.

But the presence of the research centre should also encourage local firms to set up and use it to boost themselves. Told that some local software companies were worried that the centre would drain talent away, Mr Hauser said: "For years in Cambridge we've had the problem that ger market in the rest of the world. Many companies that I have talked to welcome the arrival of Microsoft. Their investment means we will be

icon Valley that it deserves to be." Professor Needham added, "We shall be looking for the best people from the rest of the European Union, not taking a vacuum cleaner around the outskirts of Cambridge."



Cashing in the chips: Roger Needham, who has attracted £50m of Microsoft cash to develop a centre of computer expertise in Cambridge

### Middle Eastern tycoon joins list of Oxford and Cambridge benefactors

Watic Said's funding of an Oxford busiess school was endorsed vesterda by a council of Oxford dons. Mr Said's revised plans for the £40m Wafic Rida Said Business School - his £20m donation is the biggest given to Oxford since the Second World War was approved by 342 dons and only 55 voted against it.

Other recent tycoon benefactors in-

Jean Aitchison, on her appointment as the Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communication in 1994, said she would use it to "leap the gap between literature and language". The chair, based at Worces-ter College Oxford, was named after

Hans Rausing

Hans Rausing, Swedish-born TetraPak King, made his money by inventing new kinds of milk and fruit juice car tons, and then moved to Britain to avoid Swedish taxes. He poured £2.5m into a new mathematics centre for Cambridge. Mr Rausing, 72, is Britain's second richest man. He supposedly gave the money after developing an interest in cosmology and in

**Charles Corfield** ifornia, Mr Corfield pledged £1m to Oxford last September. Aged 35, he had graduated just 14 years before. He abandoned a doctorate in the United States to produce software; his most successful product, FrameMaker, be-came a market leader in technical publishing, and last year the company he founded a decade ago was sold for

\$500m (£312m). The money he gave

to Cambridge went into a Centre for

Mathematical Studies. The first stage

of the £25m centre will open in 2000. WK Kellogg In perhaps the most bizarre of all name changes, in 1990 an Oxford college de-cided to take the name of the inven-tor of Corn Flakes, WK Kellogg, Rewley House, which takes mature and parttime students, became Kellogg Col-

gave it around £9m in 10 years. Sir Philip Harris In 1994 Manchester College, Oxford,

lege after the Kellogg Foundation

carnet business whose son, Sir Philip Harris, gave it £3.6m. Sir Philip, a leading Tory party fundraiser, threatened to withdraw his donation, which the college needs to gain full university status, when there was opposition to the title "Manchester Academy and Harris College*, but the change went ahead, with only 9 out of 200 dons voting against it.

renamed itself after the founder of a

Sir Patrick Sheehy and BAT Cambridge, after fierce opposition from cancer research groups and its own academics and undergraduates. eventually accepted £16m to name a chair after the former chairman of the tobacco giant BAT, Sir Patrick Shee-

hy. BAT is a big donator to charities - it gave £147000 to medical research

in Newcastle last summer. Desoite qualms, Cambridge took the money, creating the Sir Patrick Sheehy Professorship of International Relations on the way. BAT defended itself, while acknowledging that smoking "was a risk

Sir John Moores The biggest recipient outside Oxbridge

was John Moores University in the late Eighties. Liverpool Polytechnic changed name and status after a donation from the Littlewoods Pools millionaire, who died in 1993. The university said it wa proud of the name which underlined its commitment to Liverpool whilst paying tribute to a businessman and benefactor of projects in the city. It hoped to double the number of students to nearly 30,000 by the end of the Nineties.

Murdoch's bruiser of the box stands down Media Correspondent the television industry for some time suggest that Mr Chisholm,

"the little no-neck bastard"; being admitted publicly. the man who saved Rupert The former Sky chief, whose Murdoch" and "the most powerful man in sport" shocked the television industry yesterday by bowing out for health reasons. Sam Chisholm, chief executive and saviour of satellite channel BSkyB, announced that he would be stepping down because

Sky Television, as it was then, was losing more than £14m a week when Mr Chisholm joined 57, is more seriously ill than is from the Australian Channel 9 in 1990 and its massive debts were threatening to bring down Mr Murdoch's whole media empire. The company has since floated on the stock exchange

salary and share options pack-age of £9m last year made him the highest paid executive in the United Kingdom, is credited with turning around Rupert Murdoch's satellite television operation to the point where his power and importance threatened that of Mr Murdoch.

based on Genghis Khan. His squat frame and bruiser's demeanour were used to great effect when he clashed noisily with Kelvin MacKenzie, the former editor of the Sun noted for his own temper. The two tried unsuccessfully to run BSkvB toand is now worth £10bn. it made over a £315m profit last gether. Mr MacKenzie lost the year and is acknowledged as the battle and resigned.

"He dominated Sky's culture from the top to the-botsaid one former

interesting to see if they can keep up the standard."

Mr Murdoch said yesterday:

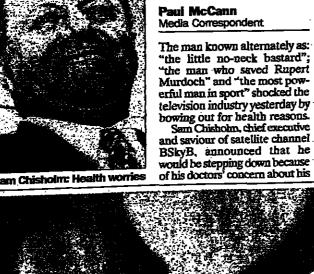
"Sam Chisholm is unquestionably one of the best executives I have ever worked with. I'm really sor-ry that he has to step down."

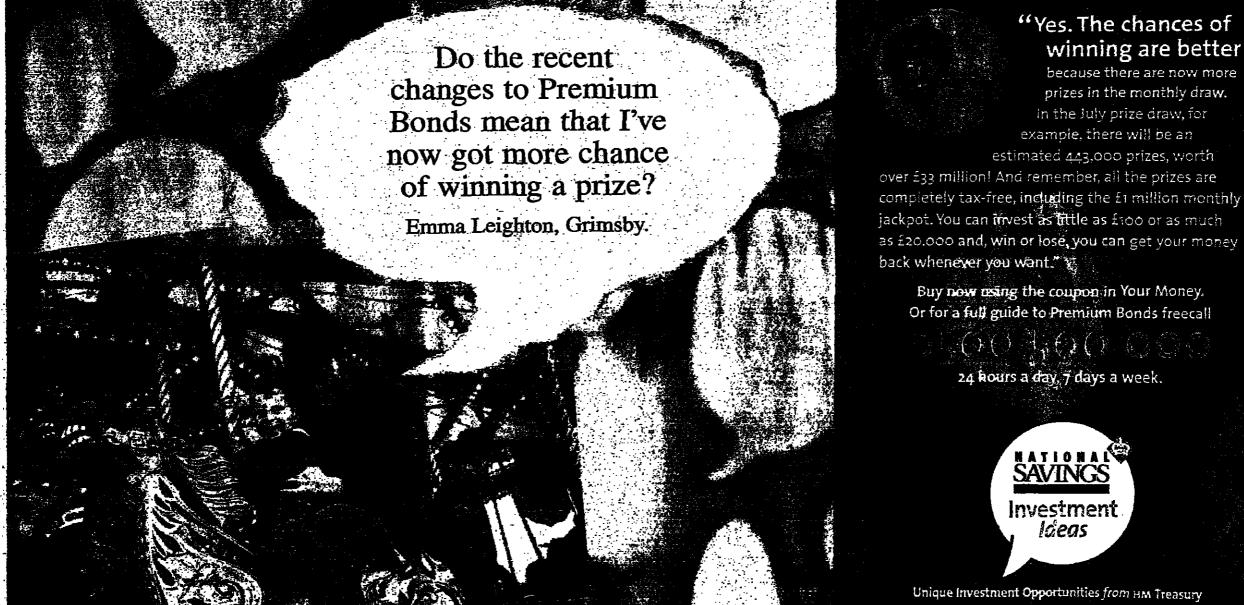
Mr Chisholm will be replaced by Mark Booth, chief operating officer at the Japanese joint venture broadcaster JSkyB. It had been expected that he would be replaced by Elisabeth Mur-doch, Mr Murdoch's daughter and director of programming at BSkyB. Mr Chisholm is known to have clashed with Ms Murdoch this year when he instituted a programming review while she was on maternity leave. It is believed that Mr Murdoch ordered Mr Chisholm to suspend the review until she

returned to work. For all his aggression Mr Chisholm earned the respect, if not the affection, of his employees at Sky. "He pushed me harder than I have ever been

"And it made me better." For Mr Chisholm, who made his name with Kerry Packer, the other Australian media mogul. and his "cricket circus" in the 1970s, the formula for Sky's success has been simple. Every important sport, from the Premier eague to cricket and Rugby, has been bought up at a cost of more than £1bn in order to

force sports fans to buy dishes and subscribe to the channel. City reaction, page 25





ost successful pay-TV venture

Mr Chisholm cultivated an

# No more official junkets for journalists, Brown rules

Anthony Bevins and Ian Burreil

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is about to bring down the shutters on the junkets and gifts lavishly handed out to the thousands of journalists who attend European summits.

The Treasury fears that food. drink and gifts for the media hordes could cost the taxpayer as much as £1.5m when Britain takes on the six months' presidency of the European Union

Charlie Whelan, the Chan-

ive hospitality and gifts."

But foreign journalists re-erument. acted with anger to the decision yesterday and warned that it detrimental effect on the way Britain was portrayed overseas. The generosity and scale of

this week's Amsterdam summit has left British officials aghast. With an estimated 3.200 journalists and technicians accred-

ited - a running buffet of sandwiches, cream cakes, cherry waffles, chocolate eclairs, orange cellor of the Exchequer's press juice and coffee has been

too much for the Dutch gov-

As well as ice cream cornets, the journalists have even been could "backfire" and have a given free telephones to call anywhere in the world. Normally, at summits, the telephone calls, at least, are charged to the individual.

There has even been a free gift of a luggage trolley complete with a bottle of high octane spirits, and an expensive set of pens. The British estimate that the Dutch taxpayer will have to fork out about £1m for two days'

nosed parsimony provoked threats of a boycott of the summit from sections of the foreign

press corps.

Ali Bahaijoub, a former president of the London-based Foreign Press Association, said: This will be received very

"To be thrifty can be counter-productive. If you have got 1,000 journalists coming to cover the summit then to spend £50.000 on them is more than

He said that poor hospitali-

ly on Britain.

He added: "London is the hub of the world's press and if they carry on treating us badly

people will just move out."

The foreign press corps is already smarting over Britain's decision to restrict access to President Clinton's recent visit to Downing Street to American and Bri'ish reporters.

By contrast, other countries have turned the wooing of journalists into a fine art.

Reporters visiting many southern European countries with its own bar and dining car

secretary, said in Amsterdam yesterday: "We are determined to keep the costs down, without River – and nothing has been excessive hospitalize and contributions and contribute to "knocking country hotels and swanky seacountry hotels are specified by government of the media and contribute to "knocking to be a swanky seacountry hotels and swanky seacountry hotels are swanky seacountry hotels and swanky seacountry hotels and swanky seacountry hotels are swanky seacountry hotels a side resorts with plentiful supplies of high quality food and

Italy once even considered flying a selected group of journalists from Brussels to Rome in a private jet for a one-night party "to celebrate the end of the presidency".

The Greeks treated hacks to a short stay on a holiday island. "It was completely non-work related," said one.

When Ireland held the presidency in 1990 an entire train-

- was given over to moving the press around the country. Reporters talked of the flow of Guinness' as they went on a trip from Dublin to Galway where they were accommodated in a superb country mansion.

The fine hospitality is usually accompanied by generous interview facilities with government ministers.

One Brussels reporter said: The countries that have the least diplomatic clout felt it was more important to get the journalists on their side."

Four summits are scheduled in Britain: A January jobs summit for the G8 group of eight

London; a York European economic and finance ministers meeting in February; and two summits in June, another G8 in Birmingham, and an EU heads of government meeting in Cardiff. The path for Britain's new Labour, new austerity policy, should be paved by the Luxembourgers, who are next in line for the European presidency, to the end of the year. They have charged for food and drink at summits in the past and are notorious - and even re-sented - for the fact that they resolutely refuse to hand out

## Man is held over murders of RUC officers

David McKittrick Ireland Correspondent

One man was arrested yesterday in connection with the IRA murders on Monday of two Royal Ulster Constabulary officers in Co Armagh. The arrest came as the RUC carried out a number of searches in the town of Lurgan.

Meanwhile, an unusually in-tense wave of grief, revulsion and condemnation was evident in Northern Ireland yesterday in the wake of the killings.

The angry condemnation was accompanied by continuing bewilderment about how the IRA



believed it was advancing its cause by carrying out the killings at a time when the Government and Sinn Fein appeared to be converging on the issue of republican entry into talks. The overall atmosphere remained grim in anticipation of further violence in the wake of the murders.

With the security forces and the Catholic population braced for possible retaliatory acts of violence from lovalist paramilitants, a flurry of activity on the parades from brought no sign of any last-minute breakthrough in advance of the impending marching season.

On the political talks front, meanwhile, the Ulster Union-

the Government a mutually acceptable approach on the question of arms de-commissioning Mo Mowlam, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, wants this issue dealt with within the next few weeks so that the multi-party talks can move on to substantive negotiations.

These developments, taken with the dashing of the hopes for an an early IRA ceasefire and above all the murders of the policemen, have driven up tensions which were already running at a high level.

In Lurgan where the two constables were killed life came to a standstill for a minute's silence at noon. At the murder scene Catholics and Protestants united in a vigil of remembrance while hundreds queued outside the local RUC station to sign a book of condolence.

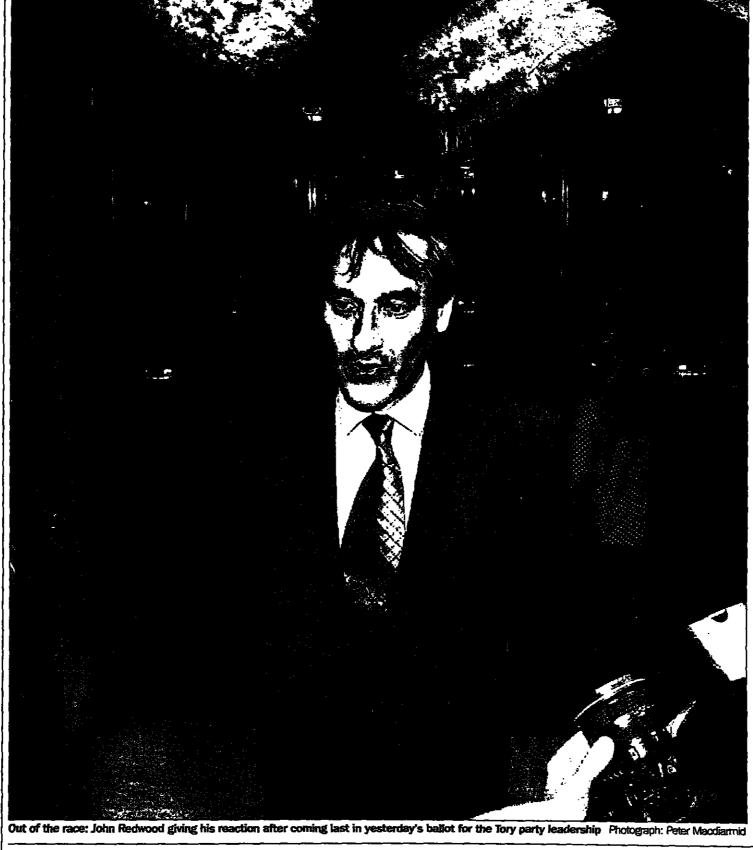
Killings in Northern Ireland are traditionally followed by condemnation from political and church figures, but the strength of this emotional reaction seems to indicate that the two deaths have touched deeper emotions than usual.

Feeling was heightened by the fact that the two constables, John Graham and David Johnston, were both in their early 30s and between them had five young children aged between two and ten.

Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC Chief Constable, said after visiting their families: "These two young families are absolutely ripped apart. They are devastated and what makes it worse is that it was so needless."

Sinn Fein's president, Gerry Adams, was very much on the defensive, insisting that his goal remained a lasting peace and commending the IRA's 1994-96 cessation as "by any international standards a very good ces-sation. He declared: "It wasn't condemnations, it wasn't the vitriol of denunciations which

brought that about."



## Nicholson claims more Tory defections to follow

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

New rumours of splits in the Conservative Party were circulating last night as Emma Nicholson, who defected to the Liberal Democrats, said some of her former col-

leagues were planning to follow her.
The claim followed statements from Labour sources who said this week that up to a dozen Tories were actively talking to them about the possibility of a Tory split if William Hague was elected leader of the party. Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's press secretary, said the party had a number of links, both informal and formal, with Tory MPs.

Miss Nicholson said "lots" of Tories, some of them MPs, had approached her. Many of them had been deeply distressed by the party's plight, she added.

Lots of people from inside and outside Parliament have been talking to me. Individuals of prominent position and of humble position have talked to me almost every day. Some people have already decided what they are going to do," she said.

Although a significant group of MPs might be thinking of joining the Liberal Democrats, the decision was very hard for them, she added, "It's difficult to leave the party that you pledged yourself to. It's rather like the end of a marriage."

Miss Nicholson would not say how many MPs had told her that they were thinking of jumping ship, but she said she did not believe the party could survive in its current form. "I don't think the Conservative Party is able to be led any longer. I personally believe we are seeing its extinction in the shape and form it has been in this century ... I believe it will be-

come a true right-wing party," she said... Members of Kenneth Clarke's camp believe the rumours of a split have been put about to destabilise their chances of success in the Conservative leadership contest. However, with both Labour and the Liberal Democrats claiming that they had been talking to Tory dissidents, a split seemed increasingly likely. The claims were dismissed by sources on the left of the Conservative Party, though. They said there was "practically none of that kind of talk".

## Blair to decide fate of Millennium exh

**Christian Wolmar** 

Tony Blair will make a final decision today on the future of the Millennium Exhibition at Greenwich amid growing calls for it to be scrapped.

Mr Blair will make the deci-

sion himself and present it to Cabinet tomorrow. Although Mr Blair is known Leading article, page 21 to favour going ahead with the

project which will cost £780m - backbencher, Nick Palmer MP the money, which could go to neluding up to £450m of pub- for Broxtowe, calling for the lie money - senior Labour sources were saying last night that it will almost certainly be the waste of the lottery money scrapped because it does not appear bnancially viable.

Yesterday, in one of the first putative backbench revolts of the new Parliament, over Labour 20 MPs supported a mo- for sponsorship from business. tion tabled by a new Labour The Exhibition will suck up all

going into the project, but are also questioning the potential waste of private sector sponsorship. Dr Palmer said: "There is only a finite amount available

projects around the country." Much of the opposition is from Midlands MPs who are already annoved that so much of lottery funding has gone to London. Labour MPs are also con-

cerned that so much money is being spent on an exhibition when there is a desperate shortage of funds for health and ed-

project said the MPs have misunderstood the basis of the funding: "This is money earmarked by the Millennium Commission to celebrate the millennium. It cannot be di-

verted to health and education." Although a considerable amount has been spent clearing contamination from the land at Greenwich, only around £25m

However, sources close to the is what the Millennium Commission calls "net of legacy" that is money that would be wasted, mainly by having to pay compensation for breaking con-

tracts with companies. While business in London has generally supported the project, there has been a noticeable cooling in the past few days as it has become clear that the scheme is in trouble again.

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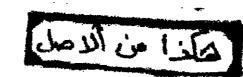


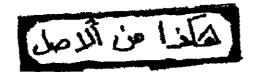
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Death in the Alps and a son's claim for the father he never knew



Gerald Hedley, right, with his friend and guide David Cuthbertson whom his son is now suing

James Mellor

A six-year-old boy whose father died after a fall in the French Alps yesterday began a High Court action against a mountain guide he claims is responsible for the accident.

The child, Daniel Hedley, was not born at the time of the accident in 1990 and his father Gerald was unaware that his. wife, Lynda Woodroffe, was pregnant at the time,

A novice climber, Mr Hedley, 41, was killed after plunging from the north face of the Tour Ronde, near Chamonix in the Mont Blanc range.

Kieran Coonan QC, who is representing Daniel, claims that the fatal fall was caused by the failure of mountain guide, David Cuthbertson, who was also a family friend, to anchor Mr Hedley securely to the mountain.

the pair set out from a mounmeant to attach him safely to the tain but at 4,000m to climb a rock face in the event of a fall, 350m section of ice and rock. At to fail and both men plummetfirst Mr Hedley led but when he complained of fatigue Mr Cuth-bertson, an experienced mouned to the snow and rocks below.

taineer, took over. The court heard that the guide, who is from Dores, Inverness, was 20m above his charge when the ground slipped from beneath him. The fall caused Mr Hedley's

Mr Coonan described how single ice screw, which was

court that he had made a constrict safety rules, which would have required him to attach Mr Mr Hedley, a respected art Hedley with two anchors, be-

conservation expert who had worked at the Courtauld Insticause global warming made the heat so intense that he tute of Art in London and had feared an immediate rock fall. "It was the hottest I had been working on a book for the ever known it even though it was Getty Institute in the United only 8.30 in the morning," the guide told Mr Justice Dyson. States, died from his injuries while Mr Cuthbertson sustained fracture to his knee.

The sun was shining directly on the summit above where we

danger of rocks.
"Since the 1960s, global warming has affected the Alps. badly. They are far more treach-

Earlier he had explained: "I wanted to move away as quickly as possible to the safety of a rock face to avoid a possible catastrophe of a rock fall from above. Gerry Hedley was my friend. I regret the incident

were climbing and I was ex- but I still believe I took the right scious decision to disregard tremely concerned about the action to get us both out of the

> Mr Cuthbertson's testimony prompted Mr Justice Dyson to respond: "The sun is at the heart of this defence." Later the victim's wife, Lyn-

da Woodroffe, told of her plans to meet her husband the following day and tell about her pregnancy.
Six-year-old Daniel Hedley is claiming around £100,000 of

damages from the mountaineer for the loss of his father which, he alleges, was caused by Mr Cuthbertson adopting dangerous climbing practices.

Mr Cuthbertson is believed to be the first mountain guide to be sued for negligence in relation to a fatal climbing accident. The ruling could have serious repercussions for organisers and guides involved in dangerous sports and activi-ties.

## Doctors repudiate claims that fluoride is dangerous

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Eight medical organisations yesterday condemned new claims that fluoride added to water and toothpaste to prevent dental decay was harming the population's health.

are to present research today which they claim shows that the chemical causes cancer, brain damage and defects in the im-

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mune system. Dr Peter Mansfield, president of the National Pure Water Association, will present data on more than 600 of his own patients which he says shows levels of fluoride ingestion are a "cause for grave econom-

ic and symptomatic concern". Paul Connett, professor of Scientists opposed to fluoride chemistry at St Lawrence University, New York, will stress that the gap between safe and toxic levels of fluoride is dangerously small.

Channel 4 programme to be broadcast tomorrow and appeared in newspaper articles linked to the programme last

The British Dental Association (BDA) dismissed the claims as unfounded and said that they rpetuated the "illusion scientific controversy"

In a detailed rebuttal, backed by more than 20 national organisations including the British

Call 0800 200 400

The claims are repeated in a Medical Association, the Faculty hannel 4 programme to be of Public Health Medicine, the Health Education Authority and the Patients' Association, the BDA said that none of the claims stood up to scientific

a fracture to his knee.

No evidence of damage to bones or joints caused by fluoride had been found, or of a link with cancer, the association said. Research on its impact on the immune system was seriously flawed and there was no

evidence that it increased the dental public health at the Unirisk of stillbirth or of Down's syndrome in babies.

The association cited a 1978 report by the United States Consumers' Union which conchided: "The survival of this fake controversy represents one of the major triumphs of quackery over science in our s ation." It added that the statement was "as true today as

it was in 1978." Mike Lennon, professor of tooth decay. One in three chil-

versity of Liverpool and chairman of the British Fluoridation Society, said: "Scaremongering of this sort is a real threat to public health. There is no doubt about the safety of fluo-

mans are exposed. Dr June Crown. esident of Medicine, said the anti-fluoride lobby trivialised the problem of

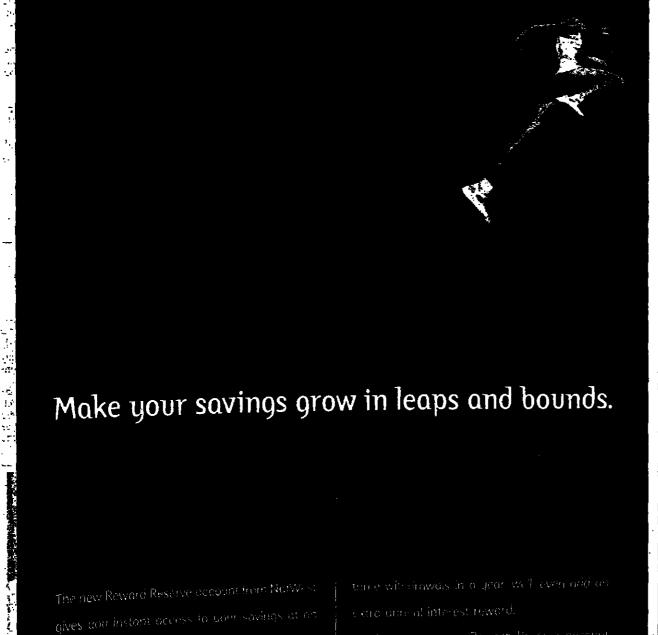
ride at the levels to which hu-

dren living in deprived areas of Liverpool has a gas anaesthetic for tooth extraction before the age of five, which is avoidable, unpleasant and a financial drain on the National Health Service, she said.

and water - is safe and effective, and is acknowledged to be the the Paculty of Public Health single most significant factor in oride is more toxic than lead. If the widespread reduction in tooth decay rates since the Seventies," she said.

John Graham, a spokesman for the National Pure Water Association's London branch, said there was a mass of evidence linking excess fluoride with a range of adverse effects. "The medical establishment's answer "Fluoride – in toothpaste is to fit earplugs. If they had a dwater – is safe and effective, case they would not flinch from someone offered you a toothpaste containing lead, you'd

think twice about it."

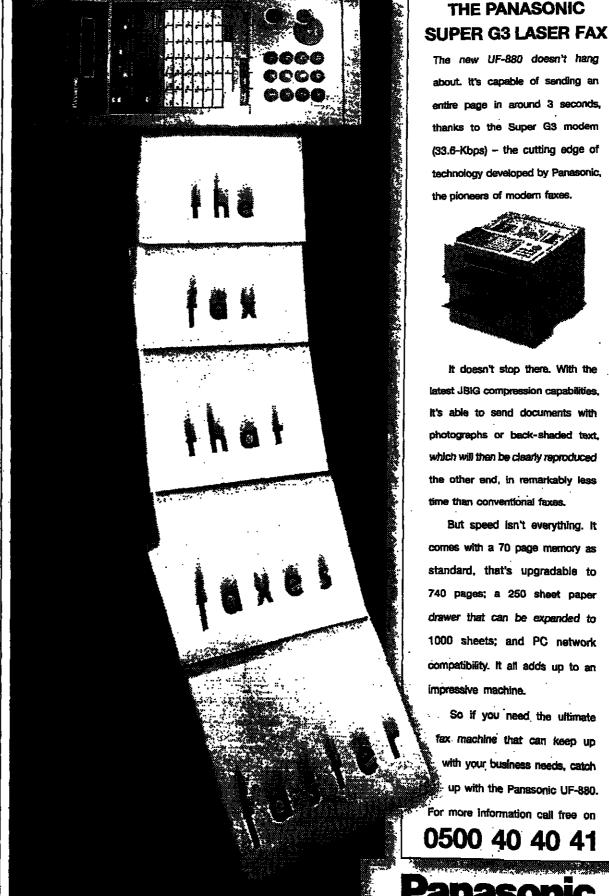


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# Scrap 'parent power' reforms say teachers

Education Editor

Leaders of the biggest teachers' union yesterday challenged the Government to reverse key 'parent power" reforms of the

last 15 years.

The National Union of Teachers wants an end to the publication of league tables and power over school admissions returned to local authorities. Local councils, not parents, it said, should have the right to determine the future of

the remaining grammar schools.

The union's package of proforthcoming education White Paper will bring it into conflict

David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, has said the publication of examination league tables, designed to help parents choose schools, will continue and that the fate of existing grammar schools will be decided by a parental vote. He has said the Office for Standards in Education, (Ofsted) which oversees school inspections,

schools would set their own targets and be inspected by local authorities. If they failed to meet their targets, they would have to explain why. Local authorities would be inspected by Ofsted.

Publication of league tables would cease. Instead, local authorities would give parents information about schools' success in meeting targets.

Doug McAvoy, the union's general secretary, denied that the proposals would undermine parent power.

"Parents don't have power posals for the Government's over admissions now. It's a myth that you can choose a school for your child."

He also contested the view that the union's ideas conflicted with Mr Blunkett's: "I don't think we start worlds apart. I don't accept that these proposals are inconsistent with what Mr Blunkett has said."

However, he agreed that the union and the Government took different views over selection. "Our view is that there should be no selection. It is not estimated that the cost was consistent of the Labour gov-

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Under the union's plans, ernment to agree that there should be no more selection and at the same time say nothing about selection where it exists.

Mr McAvoy rejected the idea put forward by local authority leaders that teachers should be judged by their resilders's success in meeting performance

You cannot take pupils achievement as a measure of a teacher's competence or capa-bility," he said. "The purpose of targets set for schools ought to be to give teachers an incentive not as a tool for management

to identify weaknesses. ?.

Mr Blunkett will today announce an extra £5.5m for the careers service. He will test the Careers Service National Association they should use the money to target 16-year-olds who leave schools without qualifications and those who end up on the wrong courses and drop out. Mr Blunkett is anxious to cut out the waste which occurs because young people fail, or fail to complete, vocational courses or A-levels. One survey around £500m.

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## Council defends decision to bar disabled girl from school

Jojo Moyes

to attend the same school as her friends yesterday defended its "in principle". decision, but offered her a glimmer of hope.

The parents of three-year-old Zoe Palmer, who suffers from spinal muscular atrophy, were told by Suffolk County Coun-months, another financial year cil that she could not attend Thurston Primary School, along to school. It's still very early, with her friends from playgroup, because it could not afford the necessary alterations.

Richard Robinson, the council's spokesman, said that Suffolk had a budget of £10,000 for special needs improvements to 135 schools, and could not afford to spend 70 per cent of that on the chair lift and ramps that the council said the school would need.

The decision was criticised by Zoe's parents, who said that they had already raised £4,500 for an electric chair, and that they should not have to raise more money to get her into her local school. "All she wants to do is go to the same school as all her friends in the village," Zoe's mother, Juliet, 27, said.

But yesterday Mr Robinson said that Thurston school itself A county council which told the parents of a disabled child that their daughter would not be able could raise the mon-

We strive as much as we can to ensure that every parent gets their child to go to the school they want to," he said. "This girl has another 15 there's a lot of mileage.

But he warned that even if Zoe Palmer were able to go to Thurston Primary School, she would eventually be faced with the same problem.

"The primary school have said that whereas they would love to have the girl at their school, at age nine she would still have to break off from her friends to go to another school because Thurston's middle school has no access," he said, adding that the alternative schools the council had sug-gested were nearby and had good wheelchair access.

Zoe Paimer's parents could not be reached for comment on Mr Robinson's remarks yes-

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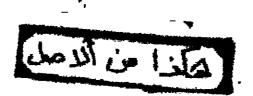
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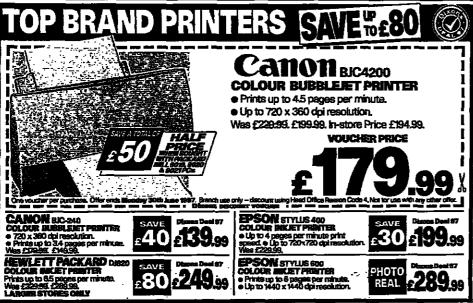
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# McLibel Two hope to taste victory as whopper trial comes to an end



Legal eagles: Dave Morris and Helen Steel sitting in their office among the mountain of files accumulated during their defence of the libel action Photograph: Andrew Buur



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## Judge will take an hour to read out summary of 1,000-page findings

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

The fabled McLibel trial, the longest of any kind in English legal history and three times as long as any English libel case, is finally reaching a conclusion. It will take Mr Justice Bell an hour simply to read out a summary of his 1,000-page judgment later this week.

In fact, and unbeknown to most, this mammoth 313-day trial has not been one libel action but two. In what could turn out to be a neat legal move, the doughty Dave Morris and Helen Steel, veterans of the struggles over the miners' strike, Wapping and the poll tax, counterclaimed for libel against the mighty McDonald's Corpora-

The McDonald's writs were issued in 1990, several years after a little-circulated What's Wrong Wah McDonald's leaflet issued by London Greenpeace (no relation to the worldwide Greenpeace environmental or-

ganisation) first appeared.

The leaflet contained a series of allegations about the "junk" nature of McDonald's products and its alleged exploitation of resources, workers and animals. As the trial loomed amid a mountain of paperwork and after 28 pre-trial hearings, McDonald's issued 300,000 leaflets and press releases attacking the leaflet as lies. The lines for the battle of the

leaflets were drawn.

"The hypocrisy of it." says an affronted Mr Morris, 43, who admits to trying McDonald's milk shakes about 15 years ago until he learnt the amount of

sugar they contained.

Ms Steel, 31, and Mr Morris
became defendants in person,
without legal aid and unjustly,
they say, deprived of a jury. But
as they set about calling a succession of witnesses – including
a string of nutritional experts
and one of a number of private
investigators hired by McDonald's to infiltrate London
Greenpeace – and conducting
detailed crossexaminations of the corpora-

tion's big guns, it became increasingly clear that this was not to be the trial lasting a few weeks that the corporation had been banking on.

Perhaps the most curious aspect of all, however, is the experience of another campaigning group, the Nottingham-based Veggies. Veggies became the main distributors of the leaflet. After a legal complaint from McDonald's the group made some slight amendments but was then free to continue distribution – more

Ms Steel, whose name aptly matches the force of her opinions, says: "London Green-



peace was the start of a worldwide campaign. They thought that by attacking people involved with London Greenpeace over all the issues in the fact-sheet, they would get an apology and then effectively the campaign would be

Things have only got worse for the ultra image-conscious company, despite the fact that it could easily afford the millions of dollars it has spent on the litigation. McInformation Network, an international network of volunteers, claims its McSpotlight Internet site, containing 19,000 pages of official court transcript, has been accessed nearly 9 million times.

As "ordinary" people living near the poverty line (separately – they have never been an "item") learning about the finer, and often crucial, points of legal procedure and pitted against McDonald's silvertongued QC, Richard Rampton, Ms Steel and Mr Morris sup-

ported each other in times of crisis and exhaustion.

But in truth they were never that ordinary. Mr Morris, who had to juggle the demands of the case with caring for his eight-year-old son, Charlie, says: "We are both experienced campaigners. We know when people are determined to fight they can square up to the most unfavourable odds."

Of the list of offensive characteristics of McDonald's – and, as Ms Steel points out, all the other burger chains – the billions spent on promoting high-fat, low-fibre food was one of the worst in the eyes of the McLibel Two.

But there is a wider aspect.

"McDonald's are symbolic of the way the current economic situation is going globally—their whole approach to food, employment, packaging. To me they are a company that has to be challenged if people are going to challenge the domination of our lives by multinational corporations," she says. But Britain's libel laws mean

that opposing the multinational giants is a perilous task. Ms Steel invokes a House of Lords ruling that laid down that councils could not sue for libel because of the "chilling" effect on freedom of speech. "Multinational companies have as much if not more influence in society today as governmental bodies and are far less accountable."

If they lose the case they plan to argue before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg that a multinational should not have the power to sue unless it can show that the defendant knew he was publishing fabricated information.

Mr Morris says: "I think that libel laws are being used as a form of mass censorship in this country. Mass because every pa-

lishing fabricated information.

Mr Morris says: "I think that libel laws are being used as a form of mass censorship in this country. Mass because every paper, every film, is subject to libel checks by lawyers who are not even checking any more to see if something is accurate or defensible, but whether it may lead to a writ. And it's in secret because the public don't know what's going on. So it's mass, secret. censorship."

# Council lost £400,000 over homes sell-off

**Gienda Cooper** Social Affairs Correspondent

A local authority which hived off old people's homes to a private company wasted almost half a million pounds in one year.

The district auditor's report found that Hertfordshire County Council had had to secure repayments of £400,000 from Quantum Care, a not-for-profit organisation set up by the council itself, following checks on the accounts.

on the accounts.

In 1993 the council changed the way it provided residential care, transferring 31 elderly persons' homes to Quantum Care. While the aims of the transfer have been "substantially achieved or exceeded", the auditor found there had been "deficiencies" in the management of the couract.

The Hertfordshire Nursing and Residential Care Association, which represents the private sector, last year sought a public interest report to look at weaknesses in the arrangements the council had made with Quantum Care for "securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of re-

In 1994-5, £13.5m was paid to Quantum Care under the terms of the contract which obliged the council to purchase at least 85 per cent of available residential and nursing home places. The HNRCA queried the 1994/5 accounts, and subsequent checks by the council showed it had overpaid Quantum; £400,000 was then recovered for the year 1995/6. The

reliability of council data was also called into question.

A spokesman for HNRCA said that the association hoped the council would look again at the contract that they have with Quantum Care. "If this £400,000 had been available, how many more people in Hertfordshire could have received services which were not available because of financial restraints?"

However, Bill Ogley, chief executive of Hertfordshire County Council said: "The teething problems of the transfer have not in any way disadvantaged the public or our elderly clients."

Spending on community care services has more than doubled since local authorities were given responsibility for funding placements in residential and nursing homes, according to the Local Government Management Board

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## shock warning he was head of the Arts Council's lottery board.

Arts News Editor

Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for National Heritage, yesterday threatened to end public funding of the Royal Opera House if it did not low-er its ticket prices and act more responsibly.

The stark warning to the opera house management follows the disclosure in The Independent that lottery money was being used to fund redundancies, and the controversy over the appointment of Arts Council secretary-general, Mary Allen, to the post of general ditral London, without the post

being advertised.

Ms Allen's appointment was made by the ROH board headed by Lord Chadlington, forauthorised the £78m lottery Photograph: Rob Stratton | award to the opera house when

Yesterday, at a lunch with journalists, Mr Smith delivered a stinging rebuke to Lord Chadlington and publicly warned that the ROH's days as a publicly funded institution could be numbered.

Royal Opera House given

He said: "It has been noted, and rightly noted, that the Arts Council lottery board chaired by Peter Gummer and serviced by Mary Allen made the grant of money. The Royal Opera House board chaired by Peter Gummer and serviced by Mary Allen will actually be spending the money. And there must be questions in people's minds as to how the relationship can be best monitored to make sure that everything is happening ab-

solutely above board. Mr Smith said that when Lord Chadlington went to see him accompanied by fellow board member publisher Bob Gavron to inform him that the then general director of the opera house, Genista McIntosh, was resigning because of ill health, he "questioned them quite severely about their assertion that she was ill, and then questioned them about the lack of proper procedure in appointing a replacement". Asked esterday if he now believed she had been ill, he replied: "I genuinely do not know.

He added: "I have to say, the more I hear about the Royal Opera House the more concerned I become about whether there is administrative control, and about the relationships between senior members of staff." He felt "uncomfortable" with the disclosure in The Independent that lottery money was funding staff pay-offs at Covent

Then Mr Smith, who has al-

to launch an inquiry into the ROH, delivered his bombshell warning. He would be meeting the ROH management, he said, and 'I will say 'you have a choice. If you want to carry on being in receipt of public money, you have to show the public

responsibilities that go with that."
"I do have the power to sit down with the Arts Council and talk about their funding responsibilities ... Taxpayers' money should not be going into funding exclusivity. If the

Music for schools

Lottery money could go to fund music fullion in

charges to the lottery resulting from the revisit present underway.

He anticipated the

ment of a Mt Schools Trust which he to buy musical instrume arts away from the funding of buildings to funding of

Royal Opera House fails to make improvements in developing public access in the work that they do, I will recommend to the Arts Council that they take account of that fact in deciding what they do."

■ The Royal Opera House confirmed yesterday that the long bar at the back of the Crush Bar would be reserved for corporate clients when it reopened

## Artist robbed of his prize work

tricks on him when he discovered his prized work had been stolen from a West End art gallery just 20 minutes after being informed that he had

scooped a prestigious award. Mr Georgiou, 28, who lives in Birmingham, specialises in interactive art and optical illusions in pieces that commonly react to the viewer with light, sound or action. He had been announced as winner of the Constantinos Foundation award at the Hellenic Centre near Bak-

er Street, London, last Tuesday. But his joy was short-lived when the centre-piece of his collection was found missing. The work, entitled History: Memory, Legacy responds to heat from a viewer's face or hands to show the artist as either a boy in the foreground or an adult in the

hackground, Mr Georgiou, who first were continuing.

gained recognition at the Walsall Museum and Art Daryl Georgiou must have Gallery, had six pieces on at the Helienic Centre and was in negotiation with a Greek collector over a five fig-

ure sum for the stolen piece. "I'm obviously very upset," said Mr Georgiou. "It's ironic that the exhibit should be stolen. while I was still celebrating ... It's also annoying that it was taken when I was so near to sell-

Last night Mr Georgiou was back at the centre to receive the Constantinos Foundation award, backed by Ergo bank

Stamors Fafalios, of the Intersections exhibition at the centre, of which Mr Georgiou's work was a part, said: "We obviously hope that the work will be returned. It is the first time that anything like this has happened since the centre opened

two-and-a-half years ago. A spokesman for Marylebone police said investigations,

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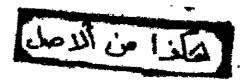
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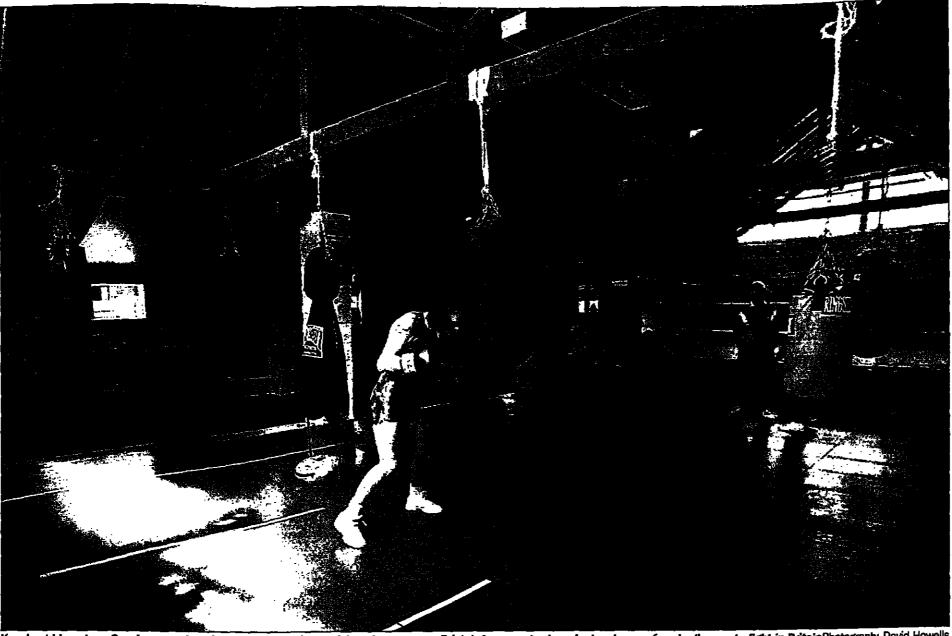
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Knockout blow: Jane Couch, women's welterweight champion, training at a gym near Bristol, Avon, yesterday; she has been refused a licence to fight in BritainPhotograph: David Howells

## Woman with a winning punch who is barred from boxing

Kathy Marks

Jane Couch holds the women's world welterweight boxing title. She has fought at major events in America and in Europe, ap-pearing on the same bill as some of the biggest names in men's boxing. But in her home country, she is effectively barred from

professional competition.

The British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC), the sport's governing body, has always refused to license women, citing medical grounds. Without a licence, female professionals cannot compete at men's fights - the events that attract the promot-

ers and the sponsorship money. Couch, 28, has decided to provoke a showdown with the BBBC, which she accuses of be-ing stuck in a charvinistic time warp. Last week she applied for a licence, knowing she would be turned down. Now she plans to

restriction of trade and sexual discrimination. "It's ridiculous that I'm a world champion and I can't fight in Britain," said Couch, known as the "Fleetwood Assassin", after her Lancashire home town.

In the United States and in much of Europe, particularly France, Germany and Scandinavia, women's boxing is regarded as a legitimate sport and is followed avidly on television. Some experts suggest that

women are more vulnerable to head injuries than men, but others point out that they also throw a less-heavy punch. A recent meeting of the World Boxing Council's medical panel was told that the sport is no more dangerous for women than for men.

However, John Morris, gen-eral secretary of the BBBC, remains unconvinced. "There is the question of pregnancy, and during their... periods," he said. Our doctors are ambivalent." The board, which is taking legal advice on Couch's court action, has no plans to conduct any research on the subject. Mr

their own licensing body.
"A lot of people on my board
don't like the idea of women boxing and getting their faces knocked around," he said. "I may he old-fashioned, but neither do 1. And just imagine the outery if

recognition in Britain and was

heartened by the Amateur Box-

a woman got hadly hurt." Couch, naturally, scoffs at such sentiments, saving she has only ever suffered a few cuts and bruises - "nothing worse than you would get down the pub on a Saturday night". For her, the rush of adrenalin is the driving force. "I just love going into that ring." she said. She believes that her sport will eventually receive

ing Association's decision last year to allow women and girls to fight. But for professionals, the only British events in which they can participate are all-female fights, which are rarely staged because of scant interest Morris suggested that female from promoters and the shortprofessionals should set up age of high-calibre women.

Pauline Dickson, of the Association of Women Boxers, is circumspect. "You can't expect things to change overnight." she said, "But women's boxing is a hot potato that no one really wants to take responsibility for."

Couch, who started boxing two and a half years ago, won the world title last May in Copenhagen. She will defend it in August in Connecticut, on the same bill as Montell Griffin, the World Boxing Council lightheavyweight champion.

But for the moment, her aggression is directed at the BBBC. "They've got a fight on their hands." she said.

# Spot drug tests for children of nine

Patricia Wynn Davies

Would-be football stars as young as nine are being ran-domly tested for drugs at the 147 centres of excellence across

England & Wales.
Alan Hodson, of the Football Association's drugs control programme, told the Association of Chief Police Officers' national drugs conference that 10,000 youngsters aged between nine and 16 could be tested in unau-nounced spot checks at any of the centres.

News meanwhile emerged of the latest device by prisoners for getting round drugs tests in jails. Some prisoners have already switched from cannabis to heroin because heroin flushes out of the blood-

stream more quickly.

Now, according to last night's

BBC Radio 4 File on 4, immates are using a mixture of heroin and paracetamol known as "Two Card" in which the purity level of the drug is reduced so that it becomes un- detectable in urine tests. The mix s known as "Two Card" because it often costs two phone cards

in prison currency.

Mr Hodson told the ACPO conference in Hinckley, Leicestershire, that it was not unusual for promising teenage footballers to be pestered by drug pushers between five and six times during an evening in

night clubs.
"I don't think that we all realise what pressures there are," Mr Hodson said. "When we have got pushers and peddlers bringing things down to £1.50 for a pill, that's pocket money stuff."

The young footballers have their urine samples collected by the Sports Council and analysed at King's College, London. The

cost of each test. Any youngster testing positive is then sent to a drugs assessor and must comply with the recommendations in a report, Mr Hodson

They may then be banned from playing until the FA says so and must agree to target tests

if they resume playing."

He said that of 500 random tests carried out last season, five were positive - three youths and two professionals.

George Howarth, the Home Office minister, told the conference: "I refuse to accept that drugs have become part of

growing up.
"Just one in four young people has taken drugs in the past year and even fewer - just one in seven - has done so in the last

month. But these figures are too high. The Government is determined to repair those communities damaged by drug use by getting young people into employment and drug users into treatment."

Another speaker at the conference, Professor Howard Parker of Manchester University, called for a drugs-cautioning system for the personal use of cannabis.

"On the other hand, I would

like to see drug driving taken far more seriously."

Prof Parker claimed that some police officers simply disposed of cannabis seized from people because they did not want to deal with the paperwork.

Although a cautioning system for the personal use of cannabis would effectively decriminalise the drug, Prof Parker said afterwards that he was not in favour of decriminalisation as

'It's not realistic. We are council bears most of the £230 not a mature enough society.

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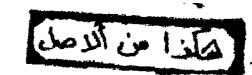
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# The cruel trade that Europe won't ban

Nicholas Schoon **Environment Correspondent** 

Britain will this week face a confrontation with its European partners, anxious to avoid a trade dispute with Canada and the US, as it presses ahead with moves to ban the import into Europe of furs from animals caught with steel-jawed leghold

traps.

The traps, which can hold an for hours animal held alive for hours with smashed leg bones and other severe wounds, are outlawed in Britain and have long been the target of animal welfare campaigners.

Six years ago, a European directive banned them and halted the import of furs from nations which use the traps.

But the European Commission has never implemented the trade ban for fear of opening a trade war with the main fur exporters, Canada, the US and Russia. As an alternative, the Commission has negotiated a deal on humane trapping standards which would apply both to the exporters and European countries too.





Photograph: Robert Franz/Planet Earth

Environment ministers from European Union states will vote on this deal, covering 19 species of mammal, at their could side with the UK. meeting in Luxembourg tomorrow. The matter will be decided by qualified majority

But it may find enough allies to block it: Austria and Sweden Canada still uses the steel-

wolf, If Europe signs up to the agreement, Canada promises to jawed leghold as a restraining trap (one which keeps its victims

voting so Britain cannot veto it. alive) for five species - the been trying to persuade the raccon, bobcat, lynx, coyote and environment minister, Michael Meacher, to drop his opposition to the agreement. Mr Meachphase it out within three years. er has told them he is too busy Looking on anxiously is the British fur trade, which has met the RSPCA, which sees the

agreement on humane trapping standards as a betrayal of animal welfare.

Although years of campaigning against for has made the trade almost disappear from than half the international fur trade is handled by British traders, brokers and insurance firms. The British Fur Trade As-

"It seems crazy to us to think our government wouldn't sign this," said Peter Zeitlin, who leads the association and hails the agreement as "a massive leap forward for animal wel-

worth around £300m a year.

The US and Canada have warned that were Europe to reject the agreement, and then implement the ban on fur imports, it would go to the World Trade Organisation, the international court which decides on trade disputes. If that found against the EU, Europe would have to pay compensation or itself be the target of legitimate trade sanctions from the com-

The deal on trapping standards has taken years to negotiate. Along the way, the US has dropped out, saying that because trapping regulations are set by individual states rather than the federal government, it cannot guarantee to implement them.

Now both the European negotiators and those from Canada and Russia say they can go no further, environment ministers have to accept or reject the agreement, but they cannot request amendments. "That would be a mission impossible." said a Commission source.

Under the agreement (see panel), within a few years time, any mechanical trap used to catch animals for pest control sociation says the business is or food as well as for fur, most meet basic standards limiting the amount of pain and wound-

ing they cause. Supporters say it will give a worldwide boost to the development of less cruel traps of all designs. Critics say it is a fudge which sanctions continued use of the horrific leghold traps. It does not cover snares, nor the two species most frequently trapped in Britain - the fox and

the rabbit. The European Commission was itself divided on the issue, with the trade commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan, in favour of the agreement, and the environment commissioner, Ritt Bjerregaard, opposed.

Sir Leon got the backing of most commissioners, so Ms Bjerregaard will advise the environment ministers to accept this week. "She will do her duty," said the commission source. A senior official in the Canadian Foreign Ministry said: "If we get Europe, Canada, Russia and then the US on board, then the rest of the world will follow."

But a spokesman for the Department of the Environment said: "We don't think this agreement goes far enough, so we'll vote against and urge the EU to bring in the trade

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### How humane is humane?

Limb amputation, bone and tooth fracture, severe internal organ damage, severing of ligaments and tendors and serious internal or external haemorrhage, are among 14 types of injuries recognised as indicators of poor welfare in trapped wild animals," according to the international humane trapping standards agreement.

ser-directed biting, leading to severe injury [self-mutile-tion], or excessive immobility and unresponsiveness" are also behaviour indicative of poor with the property of th ton), or excessive immoniting and unresponsiveness are much behaviour indicative of poor welfare, says the 31-page treaty. Eighty per cent of animals caught in restraining traps. In tended to keep their victims alive – should show none of these indicators of suffering. If the device fails to meet this candidated than the trap should be curlived. And the most table.

standard then the trap should be outlawed. And the way to assess its performance on any of the 19 mammal species covered by the agreement, is to test it on at least

20 animals. The document also sets stan-dards for "killing traps". For most of the 19 species the victim animal must fall into the state of "unconsciousness and insensibility" which precedes death, within five minutes of being

caught Again, to be le gal, a trap only has to achieve

this 80 per cent of the time. And its ability to confirm to the standard has to be assessed by testing on at least 12 ani-

standard has to be assessed by testing on at least 12 and mals. Countries party to the agreement have up to five years in which to bring in these standards.

David Bowles, European Campalgner with the RSPCA is outraged by this five minute time limit – he says it is far took long. He also condemns the agreement for legalising traps which fail to meet the standards 20 per cent of the time. which fail to meet the standards 20 per cent of the time "it would be good to have a universal agreement on humans trapping standards, but this certainly isn't it," he says "The standards are far too lax and the European Commission has given in too much to Canada." has given in too much to Canada."

### DAILY POEM The Terrible Beauty of Efficiency

By Phoebe Hesketh

Rivington Village post office as I knew it sixty years ago with its scratched wooden table, ink-well, cross-nibbed pen and blotting-paper reflecting bucolic signatures. its packets of Woodbines and jars of spiralling barley-sugar, is all changed, changed utterly: A terrible beauty is born.

There's a counter smooth with efficiency and a shining metal grille guarding the new, smart postmistress (since the old one was mugged) -Oh, so smart you'd never hear her say like the other. after giving me the wrong stamp (which I told her I'd licked). "Never mind." as she took it back, "It'll dry!"

Phoche Hesketh was born in 1909 in Preston and published her first collection in 1939. She has lived for most of her life in the Lancashire landscape about which she writes. This poem comes from her new volume, A Box of Silver Birch, published by Enitharmon Press (£5.95) at 36 St George's Avenue, London N7 0HD.

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## Plan to make drivers pay for congestion ...but will it be

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

The Government will produce a consultation paper this autumn on road pricing for motorists in large towns and cities, to tackle pollution and congestion.

A Department of Transport working group has produced a paper which proposes a charge of £4 per vehicle.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister who runs the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions, is keen to make the scheme part of a White Paper on the Government's plans to get people out of cars and on to public transport.

The consultation exercise will invite local authorities to produce schemes to reduce traffic and provide money for public transport. The paper would pave the way for wide ranging powers to be outlined next spring in the transport White Paper. This could be used by local authorities to im-

plement congestion-charging.
A government-funded study
in 1995 produced a road pricing study in London that could reduce traffic in central London by 17 per cent, cut accidents by 5 per cent and pollution levels by up to 20 per cent. The report calculated that a city-wide scheme would fund nearly £6bn of public-transport schemes.

However, ministers backed away from the idea, as business and freight operators opposed

Mr Prescott believes industry could be won over with the promise of quicker journeys.

Making people pay to get off the road is likely to be the only way motorists will leave their cars at home.

Yesterday's "Car Free Day" flopped, as motorways and town centres ended up more con-gested than usual, in spite of pleas to motorists to leave their cars at home and use public

transport or cycle to work. In the South-east, a rail dispute also played a part in the

### Tolls for roads

Singapore road-pricing was introduced in 1975 with draconian monitoring of the £1-a-day permits.

Oslo is ringed by 17 tolled entrances which al-low permit holders to use fast lanes, raising money for public transport.

Germany was thwarted by windscreen smart-cards being affected by the sun. Joined France and Italy in investing in a Leicesterbased scheme, Eurotoli, under which prices vary according to pollution. Also, motorists save money if they use public trans-

build-up of traffic. One in five trains was cancelled from Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire into London Bridge and Victoria and the disruption on Connex South Central looks set to con-

An AA spokesman said: "The rush hour started earlier than usual, and by 7am the M25 through Sussex and Surrey was awash with cars, most of them

Commuters also faced conestion in the North-east, where the AA reported 56 "travel flashes", instead of the usual 47. Not all areas were choked by congestion. Some areas, such as

Leeds, were a quieter. The Midlands. Wales and the West Country saw no change and the rush hour in Birmingham, Bristol and Cardiff was a busy as ever, with travellers in Exeter facing extralong journeys after a spate of accidents.

The aim of "Car Free Day" is to persuade people that the quickest, cheapest and most environmentally friendly way of getting from A to B involves cutting the number of vehicles pouring on to the roads. The Government supported

the measures. Glenda Jackson, the transport minister, told BBC Radio 4 Today programme that "there are alternatives to an over-car dependency". She then launched a parkand-ride scheme in Reading.

Berkshire, part of the town's in-

tegrated transport system. which allows commuters to leave their cars on the outskirts and take the bus to the centre. Ms Jackson said: "These are schemes which the Government strongly support. It has come on stream by a partner-ship between the local author-

roposals.
"There are obviously other things - like facilities for cyclists and pedestrians, making car parking in the city centre either very expensive, or simply not

ity and private business ... 97

per cent of the people who live

in the area strongly endorse the



the countryside? More than four million new households are likely to be formed by 2016, placing even more powerful pressures on the countryside, Jonathan Dimbleby, the president of the Council for Rural England, said yesterday.

He warned that housing and traffic will cover green fields unless something was done and described his message as a "call to action for everyone who cares about the future of rural Mr Dimbleby, famed as a television presenter,

was making a parting speech as president at the CPRE's general council. He said: Three hundred people a day are leaving our major cities for the countryside, showing that not only have we lost confidence in our cities, but we are prepared to tolerate sprawl across our most precious environmental asset - our countryside. "This is one of the central issues confronting

too late to save

the new Government, to which CPRE is committed to helping finding constructive solutions. "But the big pressures facing the countryside are more powerful than ever, with 4.4 million new households projected to form by 2016, traffic on rural roads predicted to double or even trable by 2025 and a manner 2 per cent of the

treble by 2025 and a meagre 2 per cent of the huge agricultural budget devoted to environmentally friendly farming."

Praising the success of CPRE Mr Dimbleby said the organisation's efforts had led to: ■ out-of-town shopping centres losing favour.

cuts in the road programme.

the dropping of plans to relax curbs on out-

door advertising.

official policy to promote the sympathetic design of new development in the countryside. renewed efforts to increasing the share of new Photograph: John Voos housing in towns and cities.

### Oasis drives its fans off the Internet Charles Arthur that its attempts to shut sites Science Editor have aroused anger but produced no commercial benefit. "I Fear of prosecution has driven really doubt that they'll come fans of the rock band Oasis to remove sound and video clips

of the musicians from the Internet, in a case which could have wider repercussions for users of the World Wide Web.

On 5 May, Ignition Management, which runs Oasis, sent an e-mail to hundreds of fans with sites on the Web, warning them that they had a month to remove "copyrighted" material from their sites.

But it was bazy about what naterial was copyrighted – including pictures, audio and video clips, lyrics and guitar chords. The deadline arrived on I June. So far 36 of the hundreds of sites mentioning Oasis have either shut down or removed material.

Some fans suspect that Ignition has decided not to pursue the matter, possibly realising action would be taken.

out and say 'All right, we were wrong, we're sorry'," said Jack Martin, who runs a Web site op-

posing the "copyright" claims. If every site carrying Oasis material closes down, then an important precedent may be set. Equally, it may have been unfair for Ignition to demand the removal of the data, which may have been permitted under "fair use" - that is, quotation aspects of copyright law.

Mr Martin's site, at the University of Kansas in the US, now offers tips to Oasis fans with sites on how to avoid copyright

claims by the company.

Since the deadline, Ignition and Creation, the band's record company, have refused to explain what they consider a copyright breach, how many sites are being examined, or when legal

Mr Martin has been unable to get any reaction either. "I can't imagine it would take more than a week or so to look at the sites to see if they'd com-plied or not," he said. A spokeswoman for Creation said: The band are very busy, and so are the management.

The reaction of fans has been overwhelmingly negative. Stephen Penna, aged 14, from Redhill in Surrey, disconnected his site from the Web about a week before the deadline.

"I had Oasis sound clips and album and single covers on my site, neither of which anyone from the companies would have liked to be on my site," he told The Independent. "I am still a big Oasis fan, and think nothing il of them, especially as Noel [Gallagher, lead guitarist] said that he and the band had nothing to do with shutting down fan sites. But Ignition and Creation are just making a big fuss for nothing."

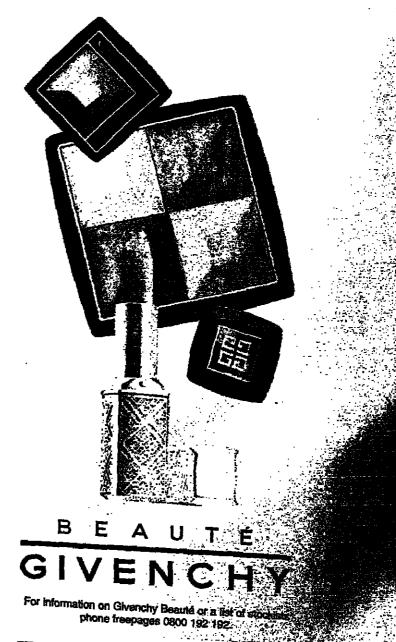
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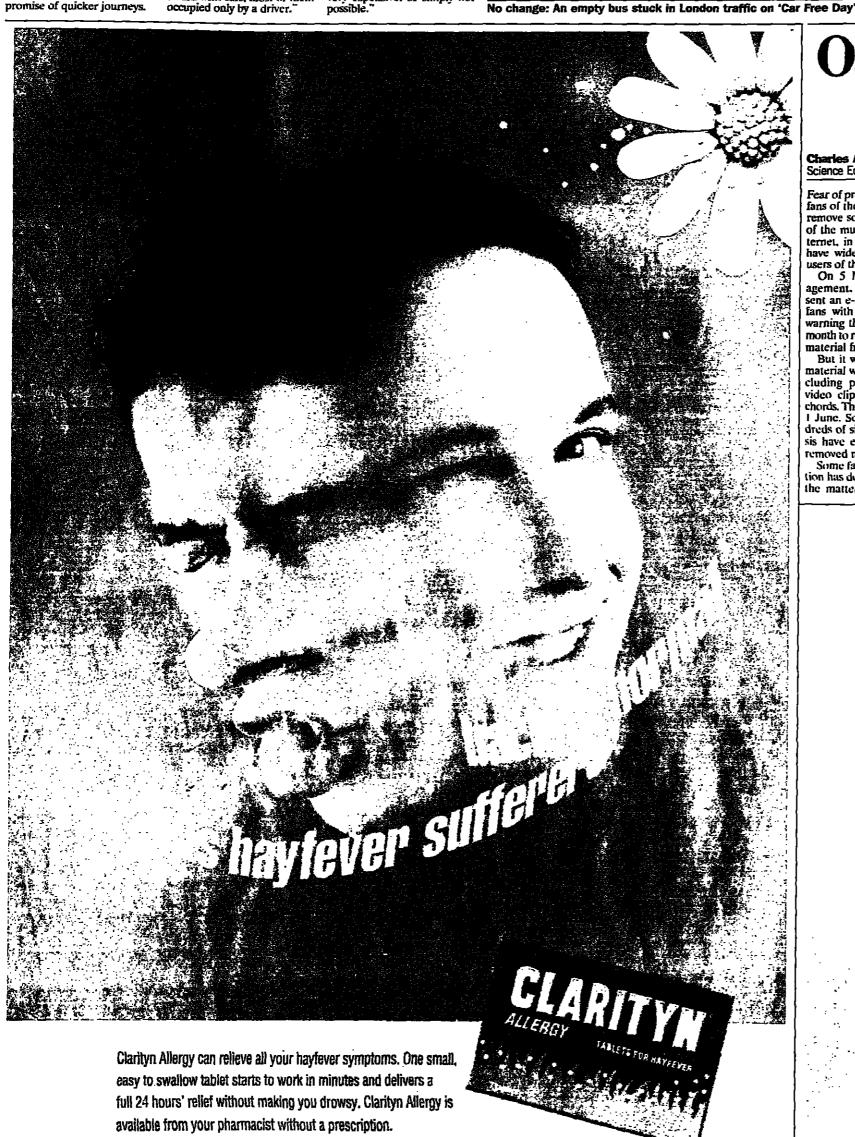
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## TerreBlanche jailed for attack on black worker

### Ed O'Loughlin Johannesburg

The South African neo-Nazi leader Eugene TerreBlanche was sentenced to six years in prison yesterday for the attempted murder of a poor black labourer employed on his

western Transvaal farm. The assault in March 1996 on Paul Motshabi, 27, could mark the end of TerreBlanche's 24-year crusade to defend white supremacy. Mr Motshabi was left brain-damaged and crippled after TerreBlanche battered him with a blunt instrument on his Ventersdorp farm, allegedly for tak-ing a break without permission. At his trial in April, Terre-Blanche was also convicted of assault with intent to do grievous

bodily harm for setting his dog on John Ndzima, a gas station at-tendant, two weeks before the at-described the trial as a "mocktack on Mr Motshabi.

Both convictions will be appealed and the court ruled that TerreBlanche could be released on a bail of 20,000 rands said. "I regard it as laughable. I (£2,726). The founder and leader am convinced the appeal case of the paramilitary AWB, showed no emotion yesterday as go to prison today the truth Judge Chris Eksteen handed down sentence in the courtroom in Potchefstroom.

Uniformed AWB supporters produced sacks full of coins to pay the stipulated bail, prompting the judge to send Terre-Blanche back to his cell until the money was counted.

Afterwards, surrounded by his supporters. TerreBlanche - a former policeman who came to

ery" and said that he did not believe he would have to serve any time in prison.

"It's the greatest injustice." he am convinced the appeal case go to prison today the truth would be locked in with me."

If the sentence is upheld it will be the end of a long run of luck for TerreBlanche, who for more than 20 years has tread a fine line between politics and terrorism. antagonising first the less extreme defenders of apartheid in the National Party government and then President Nelson Mandela's non-racial African National Congress.

## Howard set to give Queen the bad news

Sydney — When John Howard, the Australian prime minister. arrives in Britain today, he will be more interested to bolster his country's sagging cricket for-tunes than its republican cre-

Making his first visit to Britain since the election 15 months ago of the conservative Liberal-National coalition (Australia's Tories), Mr Howard will reinforce the sea change that has happened in Australia since his Labor predecessor, Paul Keating told the Queen at Balmoral in 1993 that it was time Australia replaced her with a head of state of its own.

ernei

Mr Howard is an old-fashioned monarchist and cricketlover, who believes Australia should maintain the constitutional arrangements under which it has been governed for the past 96 years, with the British monarch as head of state. But his election reflected a disenchantment with 13 years of Labor Party rule more than cause. Opinion polls still indicate that more than half Australian voters want a republic.

So, much as he would like to keep the topic off his British agenda, Mr Howard will be obliged to tell the Queen dur-



Howard: Old-style monarchist

this week that he will be convening a 10-day constitutional convention in Canberra in December during which delegates will canvass options through which Australia could amend its constitution to abolish links

with the monarchy. The other issue which Mr Howard would like to leave at home, but which is also likely to dog him here, is a row over his government's approach to Aborigines. The focus is a chilling report released last month of an government, into the "stolen generation" - an estimated 100,000 Aboriginal children the 1960s, and put in white foster homes.

The report's author, Sir ing his audience with her later Ronald Wilson, president of claims. But Mr Howard is far

Australian PM's first visit to Britain marks a sea change in relations, writes Robert

Milliken

Australia's human rights commission, described such practices as "genocide" because their ultimate aim was to obliterate Ab-original culture. This was so, he argued, because Australia's now discredited approach at the time was to separate indigenous babies and children from their traditional backgrounds in the belief that a

a "better" future. For thousands of so-called beneficiaries, the policies proved a disaster. ernment to apologise formally on behalf of the country. Mr Howard has haulked at this, Intaken from their parents up to stead, he has said he is "personally" sorry. He maintained that a formal apology could open a flood of compensation

less sympathetic than Mr Keating was to the way reconciliation with Aborigines over past in-justices has become a flash-

point of Australian politics.
Supporters of the "stolen children" are taking the cause to London, with newspaper letters and advertisements calling on Mr Howard to think again and apologise. His critics con-trast his stand-offish manner with President Clinton's official apology to black Americans unwittingly used as guinea pigs in

experiments on untreated syphilis up to the 1970s. Mr Howard's talks with Mr Blair will focus on measures to reduce unemployment, which last week climbed to 8.8 per cent in Australia. Philosophically, Mr Blair is more in tune with Paul Keating, from whom he allegedly horrowed some social policies, than with Mr Howard.

white uphringing offered them The British and Australian governments this year are spending millions of pounds on a programme called New Imscientific and educational links between the two countries. New images is a term many people associate more with Tony Blair than with John Howard. It will be a challenge for this unlikely pair to put a fresh mask on an

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## Cambodia rivals start shooting

Matthew Chance and agencies Phnom Penh

A gunbattle broke out in the Cambodian capital yesterday between the police and bodyguards of the First Prime Minister Norodom Ranariddh as police surrounded Ranariddh's

The fighting broke out late in the evening and continued past midnight. Beside automatic weapons fire, more than a dozen explosions, believed to be from rocket-propelled grenades.

were heard. About 100 police, loyal to Ranariddh's rival, Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, surrounded the house. It was not clear if Ranariddh was inside, though he normally stays there. A soldier loyal to his royalist party was reported killed.

One B-40 rocket landed in the nearby compound of US ambassador Kenneth Quinn,

causing slight damage.

The fighting broke out at a time of heightened tensions in Cambodia, as the once fearsome Khmer Rouge rebel movement appeared to be on its last legs, with all but a few of its hardcore supporters preparing

have been vying for the support of the defecting guerrillas, who are considered a potentially powerful force ahead of elections scheduled for next year.

Earlier yesterday, the Khmer Rouge rebels hinted that their leader, Pol Pot, had been overthrown. Breaking nearly a week of silence, the guerrilla organ-isation accused Pol Pot, of "betrayal" in a clandestine radio

broadcast. The statement, which follows several days of fighting between rival Khmer Rouge factions, said the group had now "solved quietly" its internal

Ranariddh and Hun Sen problems and was ready to make peace.

However, there was no direct word on the fate of Pol Pot himself, the man whose brutal regime saw an estimated 2 million people die. "What is absolutely clear from this broadcast is that Pol Pot is no longer a player," one diplomat

A purge last week of Khmer Rouge commanders sympathetic to a proposed peace deal with the government is reported to have split the group, forcing Pol Pot and a 200 hardline loyalists to abandon their remote Anlong Veng stronghold.

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## amsterdam summit

# Blair steers steady course over treaty

## Sarah Helm reports on a late night for leaders

Tony Blair was negotiating deep es by which the WEU would be into last night with European incorporated into EU partners, working to finalise the Amsterdam Treaty, which the leaders hope will settle differences over new power-

As the talks entered their end-game, Mr Blair, attending his first formal European summit, was put to serious test as a player in the European version of multi-dimensional chess.

The outcome of last night's talks will indicate whether Mr Blair is justified in arguing that his new co-operative approach with Europe has strengthened his negotiating hand

Along with every other leader, Mr Blair was reluctant to cede powers in several areas, but was certain to have to trade off slices of British sovereignty

during the course of the night. As the evening wore on, the top priority for Britain was to block attempts by other mem-ber states, led by France and Germany, to commit the union to a common European defence

in the new treaty. Britain fears that giving the European Union powers over defence would eventually turn the union into a military, as well as a political alliance, thereby

undermining the role of Nato. Mr Blair was therefore determined last night to remove language from the draft treaty text which suggests that the Western European Union (WEU), Europe's de facto defence arm, should become grad-

ually integrated in the EU. However, at the eleventh hour, the Netherlands, which holds the EU presidency, raised the stakes by suggesting a pro-tocol be attached to the new treaty detailing the three phas-

### Animal rights

The revised Treaty of Rome enshrines rights for farm animals and provides a boost for environmentalism. It says member states "shall pay full regard to the welfare requirements of animals ... as sentient beings". But there is a suggestion of an opt-out to protect "religious rites and cultural traditions" which involve cruelty to animals. The words "sustainable development" now appears in the new treaty three

In its fight against new defence power-sharing, Britain was counting on support from Denmark and four neutral countries - Ireland, Austria, Sweden and Finland. However, it seemed unlikely that Mr Blair would be able to neutralise the Franco-German initiative, and was likely to be forced to accept

Britain had already secured its prime Amsterdam objec-tive, maintaining rights over frontier controls, before last night's negotiations began.

As a price for this concession the Government ceded the right of other states to develop a joint immigration and asylum policy.

Last night Mr Blair was still attempting to limit related moves to extend the powers of the European Court to allow judges to oversee decisions on police co-operation and crime fighting. Britain was also hoping to stop moves by other member states to pool sover-

eignty in civil judicial policy. British negotiators said last night they expected to "make some progress" on the European Court issue. However, other states remained determined to give a boost to the courts role and to co-operate more widely in the judicial

Mr Blair's hope of securing a firm commitment from partners to curb the practice of fishquota hopping appeared to be in some doubt, due to objections

The highly sensitive move to introduce "flexible decisionmaking" into EU procedures whereby some countries can move ahead at a faster pace than others - was another area where Mr Blair was likely to be forced to consider a trade off.

Britain has made clear that it wants the right to veto any move by other groups of countries to pool powers as a oneoff group. However, it seemed unlikely that Mr Blair would be

able to win partners round. The best he could hope for was to secure agreement that the "flexibility" procedure would not be applied to certain core EU policy areas, such as

the single market.
The Prime Minister, who has accepted some extension of qualified majority voting, was still hoping to reduce the list of eleven areas to which other states want the system applied.





## They work better together.



## French fudge threatens euro launch

Sarah Helm Amsterdam

Just 24 hours after Europe's leaders patched up differences over the single currency. France signalled yesterday that the arguments over the cure rule book are far from over. Dominque Strauss-Kahn, the French finance minister, indicated that France will continue to push for a "flexible" interpretation of the Maastricht criteria.

Decisions on which countries meet Maastricht's crucial budget deficit rules, should be based on whether countries are "coming as close as possible" to the ceiling, set at three per cent. Monday, France appeared to of gross domestic product, he

Mr Strauss-Kahn's comments, at the EU's Amsterdam summit, are certain to fuel new fears in Bonn and London that France is seeking to "fudge" the Maastricht rules, as well as the rules of the German-designed "stability pact", which will en- a European leader that the 3 per force fiscal discipline after the

euro launch. Meanwhile, Pierre Moscovici. France's European affairs close to 3 per cent. Countries minister, sparked doubts about economic and monetary union for the second time in a week by saying in a radio interview towards three per cent even if that Paris would decide whether or not to join the curo after assessing public finances.

After hours of uncertainty, Prime Minister Lionel Jospin's spokesman Manuel Valls told reporters in Amsterdam, that Mr Moscovici had spoken out

"He spoke too quickly. This fudge the final decision.

political will or of a strategy." Mr Valls said. He said the position spelled out several times by Mr Jospin was that France would meet the criteria and deadline set to launch EMU in January 1999, "This will not be done to the detriment of employment and growth," he

added.
Under the stability pact rules, any country which does not keep to the three per cent ceiling after the single currency launch becomes subject to near automatic fines.

In a hard-fought deal, agreed at the Amsterdam in summit on step back from confrontation with Bonn over the single currency discipline by agreeing, af ter all, to accept the "stability

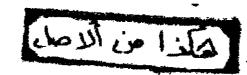
pact" with no changes. Yesterday however, Mr Strauss-Khan destabilised the fragile new accord by stating in frankest terms yet heard from cent rules should not be precisely observed.

The principle is to come must come as close as possible to three per cent and must show that they are on a trend they have not achieved it," he

Mr Strauss- Khan can rìghtly argue that the text of the Maastricht rules do allow for some flexible interpretation. However, to date, it has been largely taboo for Europe's leaders to suggest that they might

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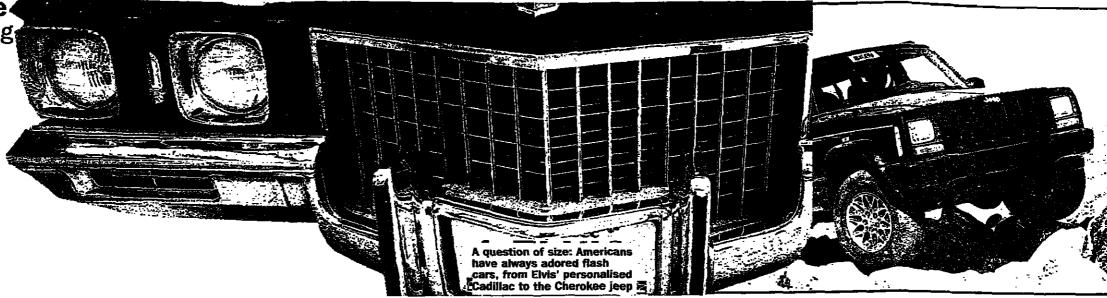
# Big is beautiful again in the US suburbs

### David Usborne machines taking

If you thought that the love affair between Americans and their gas-guzzling road-cruisers was over long ago, think again. Tail-fins may not yet he hack in fashion, but cars with monster dimensions are once more the

national rage.
In fact, these garage-busters are not cars at all. What is drawing buyers to the showrooms in droves are so-called sport util-ity vehicles that ride high above the road. They have beefy en-gines, intimidating front-grill fenders and that other feature that is so vital in suburbia four-wheel drive.

Their conquest of the US roadway - the big American manufacturers like Ford and General Motors simply cannot keep up with demand - is sounding alarm hells among safety groups. In accidents between these Goliaths and flimsy sa-loons, guess which gets crushed?



Ford apparently sees no limits to the trend. Yesterday came news that it is developing what should be the biggest utility yet -an eight-passenger titan to be called a crew wagon. It will be 19 feet long - compared with

Jeep Cherokee - and boast a V-10 engine under the bonnet.

The crew wagon will be bigger even than the current bully among bullies, the Chevrolet Suburban. In this correspon-

slightly under 15 feet for the dent's neighbourhood the Suburbans rule everywhere except in one street. Here there is a resident with the biggest statussymbol-on-wheels available

rivative of military vehicle that

might have been designed to cross the Himalayas.

ing dealership just across the East River from Manhattan in Queens, Frank Thomas confirms the passion for size. "The

bigger they are and the larger the engine-size, the more I sell." he said yesterday. "I love it." For every five large-saloon Taurus models he sells, he will

ve Ford Explorers.

shift 30 of the four-wheel-dri-

"It's totally about ego," Mr Thomas says of his customers.
"I look at their backgrounds and their credit histories and it's obvious that there is absolutely no practical point in them buying these vehicles.

They think that they are geing out on safari or something when in fact the largest obstacle they are likely to meet around here is a runaway shop-

An additional, somewhat ironic, attraction of these brutes is that their size means that they can no longer be described as small cars by the government. They thus escape both luxury taxes and federal regulations on fuel consumption.

There will be no limits on how much these vehicles can drink - which is a good thing. Most can manage only 14 miles a

The safety disadvantage that the rest of us find ourselves in on the road was highlighted by a study released last week by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

It noted that in fatal accidents involving a car and a light truck. which includes pick-ups and sport utilities, 80 per cent of those who died were riding in the cars.

That is a statistic, however, that may only quicken the stampede for the utilities. Have one of these parked outside your house and not only are you the meanest SOB on the block. your kids are likely to be the safest, too.

And who worries about fuel officiency when you are living in a country where a gallon of petrol sells for less money than a gallon of designer mineral

## Clinton to offer Africa a new deal

### Mary Dejevsky

The United States is to embark on a major initiative on Africa. designed to shift the focus of policy from aid and development towards trade and investment.

The policy, whose key word is "partnership", was presented by President Bill Clinton with great fanfare from the White House yesterday and concludes months of consideration in the US Administration about how and whether the US should play a greater role in the continent.

Last year, the then Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, made the first tour of Africa by a US official of that rank, and Mr Clinton's wife, Hillary, and daughter. Chelsea, toured investment and aid projects in several African countries this spring.

The announcement of the Africa initiative came as the US was making final preparations for the annual summit of the Group of Seven industrialised countries - this year called the Summit of the Eight because it includes Russia - which opens on Friday in Denver, Colorado.

The timing was seen in Washington as a move by the US to pre-empt criticism from other G7 countries, notably France. lessen the debt burden on the poorest African countries.

that it was not doing as much as it could to assist developing countries in general, and African countries in particular.

Last year, US overseas aid fell below the level of France for the first time. However, vesterday's announcement was also seen as an attempt to concentrate discussions at Denver, where a session will be devoted to Africa, on the successes among African states that have adopted free market principles. Last year. these countries achieved an average growth rate of 5 per cent.

Analysts said the US might also be concerned to divert attention away from what one called "the few" African countries experiencing civil strife.

They noted that France, and perhaps some other G7 members might see Mr Clinton's initiative as an attempt to steer summit discussions away from their concerns about stemming poverty and resolving conflicts in Africa. The five-point initiative includes the redirection of already agreed funds towards infrastructure projects, among them telecommunications - and backing for private investment. The US will also implement a debt reduction agreement that was reached in February. to

### Paedophile hunt gains momentum in France

A gendarmerie spokesman announced the arrest of 120 suspects yesterday after some 2,500 gendarmes fanned out across France in a crackdown on psedophile video fans. 14 months of investigation led gendarmes to a mail-order company in Macon selling pornographic films involving boys. The para-military police intended to search the homes of 800 people whose names were found on the company mailing list. France's first major paedophilia trial opened in Paris on Monday, with 71 Frenchmen facing charges of organising or subscribing to a network selling pornographic films involving boys. Reuters - Par

### Congo truce offers respite

The warring parties in the Congo Republic's capital Brazzaville agreed to a three-day truce and a demilitarisation of the international airport, a focus of fighting in the city, the French ambassador said.

### Rabbis charged over drugs

US federal prosecutors said two Orthodox rabbis in New York were charged with channelling \$1.75m (£1m) in Colombian drug trafficking profits through the bank accounts of a yeshiva and a synagogue. Authorities accused the rabbis of financing the purchase of a multi-million dollar airplane for the drug traffickers. AP - New

Jordan dismayed by US vote

Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan has said promises of \$100m in US aid have been tarnished by Congress's vote to move the US embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. Jordanian newspapers quoted the crown prince as saying Washington had allocated as much money to moving the embassy as it had to Jordan's aid increase.



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# Hong Kong handover Media faces stupefying choice at biggest ever gathering be represented by 2,800 in the state of the proposed to the state of the proposed to the state of the proposed to the proposed to

Stephen Vines Hong Kong

As Hong Kong's D-Day approaches, the authorities have

event. More than 8,000 jourcolony for the handover to Chinese rule on 30 June.

How this invasion of mildunveiled a 9,000 square metre mannered and patient people media centre, erected to house will be handled when push the biggest ever gathering of comes to much shoving, re-

If the authorities have it their way, the reporters will spend most of their time attending and ioins tour of historia and the smart shoulder which also extends to the protection of Internet services, commost of their time attending and ioins tour of historia and ioins to historia and ioins tour of historia and ioins nalists are expected in the way, the reporters will spend most of their time attending more than 70 events organised for their benefit.

The world press is being invited to visit various factories, hear briefings on the financial

and join a tour of historic monuments. Only one of the briefings, in fact, is related to the

handover of sovereignty. The media representatives will be able to raise themselves free courier delivery

bags which have been given to all accredited reporters, and which contain everything from free camera film to T-shirts, baseball caps and coupons for

The total cost of this largesse,

archive footage for television

Japan tops the list of coun-

stations, is £700,000. As is usual in Hong Kong, this sum was raised through com-

mercial sponsorship.

ber of journalists, with appli-cations from 1.300 people.

The United States is second with 1,000 and Britain, the outgoing colonial power, is third with 700. The BBC alone will be sending almost 200 journalists.

Hong Kong's lively media will

be represented by 2,800 jour-nalists. Stephen Lam, the civil servant responsible for co-ordinating the handover ceremony, seems to have a policy of not answering controversial questions directly. So far, he has had a fairly easy ride. But the me-dia torrent has not yet begun.

## journalists for a single political mains to be seen. system, the transport system, from the stupor induced by Fear of the future may spark exodus

**Stephen Vines** Hong Kong

The last comprehensive survey of Hong Kong attitudes before the end of British rule shows that economic confidence continues to rise steadily, although political pessimism is also on the increase.

These findings are contained in the latest Hong Kong Transition Project survey, released yesterday and conducted this month, as part of a decade of research on changing attitudes towards the colony's transfer to Chinese rule.

Michael De Golyer, the project director. says the survey puts a new perspective on studies which show Hong Kong people are confident about the future and have few misgivings about Chinese rule. He believes the mood is increasingly one of feeling that there is no choice. "That's a lot different

from being optimistic," he insists. The survey identifies a growing gap in attitudes between men and women and the young and old. Older men are much more enthusiastic about the return to Chinese rule than women and young people.

Dr De Golyer believes the new government will be dominated by "older males, born in China. These are the people who have views very different from most other

The bottom line, according to the survey, is that a solid 40 per cent of the population would try to leave Hong Kong if unsuitable changes occurred under the new

### Little red songbook

Betty Tung, wife of Hong Kong's future leader Tung Chee-hwa, has unveiled a song "The Homecoming" composed to celebrate Hong Kong's reversion to

Chinese rule. "The beautiful sun of July shines forth on Hong Kong, The pride of homecoming will forever be carved in my heart.

carred in my real.
Every Chinese heart is filled with joy,
Waving goodbye with heads held high to
the hundred years.
From tomorow the tuture is limitless, let the sun shine everywhere, countless people united in one, Hand in hand, for Hong Kong, unity is the

direction ....Wisdom of the motherland, Hong Kong people's perseverance, Together we realise one country, two

regime. Few people cite economic reasons as a reason for departure, while most identify issues connected to civil liberties.

The survey shows the majority of the population is content to wait and see what happens but Dr De Golyer predicts that "if China fails on this, it looks as though a very large percentage of the Hong Kong people will head out.

The survey is bad news for Hong Kong's new leadership. Governor Chris Patten enjoys a total satisfaction rating of 57 per cent, slightly down on the 62 per cent he new leader. Tung Chee-hwa, trails with a satisfaction rating of 50 per cent, down on

the 53 per cent he got last February.

Dissatisfaction with the Chinese government is high, with 51 per cent of those questioned giving a negative verdict, though this is nothing like the 64 per cent dissatisfaction with isfaction rating recorded in 1994.

The news for members of the China-appointed Provisional Legislature is worse. Only 7 per cent of those questioned thought it would "best protect Hong Kong people's interests". Confidence in the existing elected legislature, which will be abolished after China takes over, was much higher, with 47 per cent of respondents turn-ing to its members for protection.

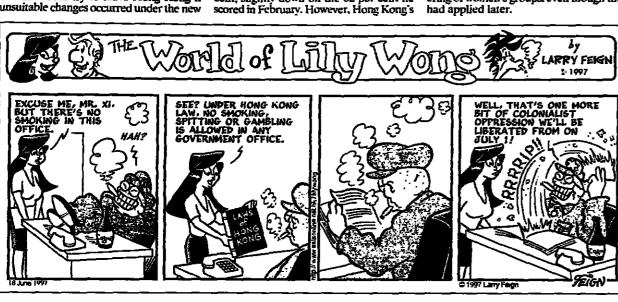
The new administration's decision to

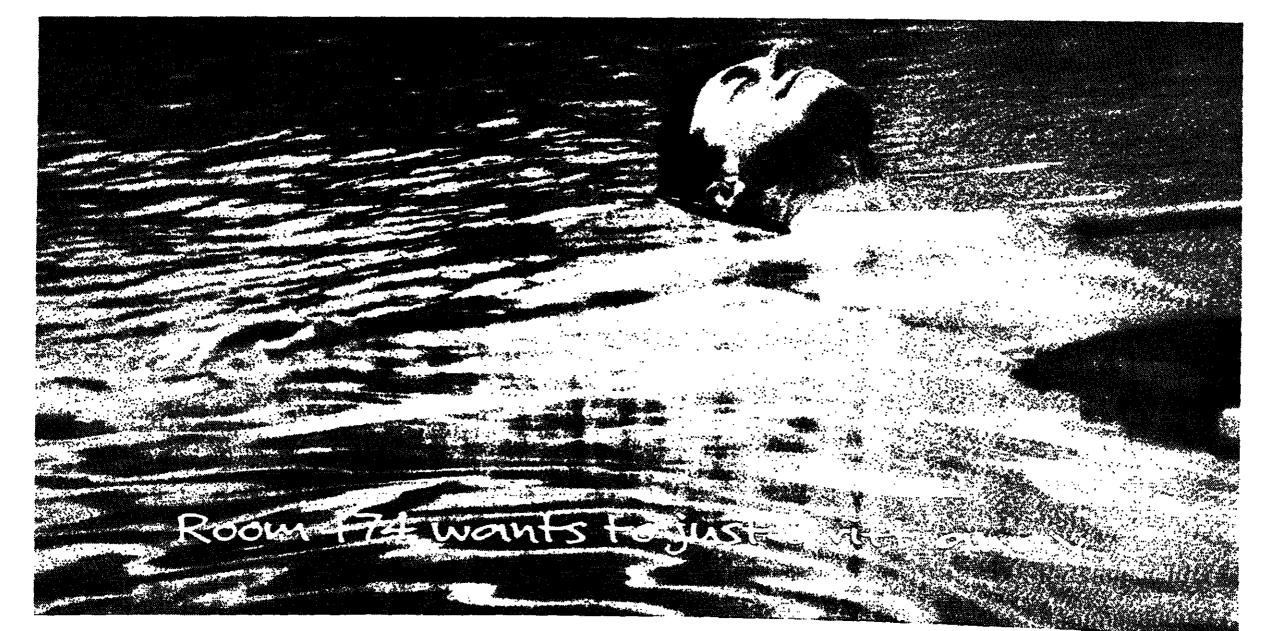
scrap all elected tiers of government was reinforced with an announcement that although members of local government would be allowed to remain in office, the pro-democracy group would be outnumbered by the appointment of 116 new mem-bers, most of whom support Peking. This addition will make the largely pow-

criess local government bodies even more likely to follow the wishes of the new administration. This was illustrated yesterday when the Urban Council turned down an application to hold a democracy rally on I July, the first day of Chinese rule, on the grounds that the space in one of the territory's biggest parks was required for a gathering of women's groups, even though they



Up in arms: A Black Watch soldier rehearsing a Highland dance over crossed swords in Hong Kong yesterday, in advance

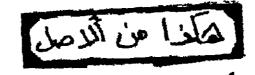




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# New Shanghai swings to the old rhythms

central Shanghai, no expense has been spared to create the sort of cosmopolitan atmosphere expected in China's style capital. The food may be strictly Chinese, but there are red London phone boxes, walls covered with reproduction Gauguin murals, waitresses in American Country and Western checked shirts and private dining rooms where, surrounded by copies of Millais and Stubbs masterpieces, you can treat your business partners to a feast of Shanghai's famous "hairy crab" specialities for 10,000 yuan (£760) a throw (drinks extra).

The Filipino band offers Kool and the Gang cover versions, until at 9.30pm the resident troupe of sing-song girls - that potent symbol of old Shanghai - takes to the stage to the tune of "Alexander's Ragtime Band". Ask the supervisor how he would describe the style theme for this cultural minestrone, and he answers bizarrely: "It's Luxembourg."
Shanghai's vibrant spirit is

back, with all its blithe excesss, and the Shanghainese who can are making the most of it. As Hong Kong prepares to re-rert to China on 1 July, Shang-nai is doing its best to make sure hat it can hold its own against ts brash cousin. Once again the rity is a magnet for the young and ambitious - including Hong Kongers, for whom it offers new opportunities.

Kenny Tang, 33, is typical of Hong Kong Shanghainese who are coming back to the city which their parents fled in 1949, when the Communists took control. This year he opened the Ying Yang jazz club in a basement which used to store elecronic goods. "I want to make ago, a great city," he says. "But



**Teresa Poole** on the Chinese city which is reinventing itself under communism's glare

Shanghai's new restaurants and bars are packed, and most of the customers are locals. But it is not just the night life which gives Shanghai the feel of a re-emerging world city; economic reform has spurred a cultural renaissance. Last autumn, the stunning new £45m Shanghai Museum opened in the centre of People's Square, in a Chinese-designed building which resembles an ancient bronze ding vessel. In December, it was the turn of the new Shanghai Library, with storage for 10 million books. Under construction is a flamboyant French-designed opera house, which will be the largest in Asia, and a massive cantilevered

It has all happened in a belated rush. Until 1990, Shanghai was in the slow lane of southern China. Then came the central government's deci-

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zone on the east bank of Shang-hai's river as China's future financial centre. Foreign investment poured in, and the construction boom has been so overwhelming that since 1991 the city has been sinking by half an inch a year, twice the rate during the Eighties. Here, too, Shanghai cannot help but vie with Hong Kong, with an official "three-phase action plan" to be China's national financial centre before 2000, Asia's regional financial hub by 2005, and a global financial centre in 2010. There are currently about 9,000 building projects.

The younger generation is thriving, with lives reinvented just as swiftly as the skyline. Lin Dongfu, 40, gave up teaching to be a reporter for Real Estate Information, and then found fame hosting a popular TV game way he became the "voice" for Sean Connery and Gregory sion to develop the Pudong Peck when their films were

dubbed into Chinese. His great passion now is his bar, Blues and Jazz. "Shanghai – we call it an international city, but we are still short of things," said Mr Lin. But less so than before. "Five years ago, there were no jazz bars in Shanghai." Now there are a dozen, and not only for foreigners. "Chinese also come; they cannot enjoy the music very deeply, but in time . .

At the YingYang, Mr Tang agreed that Shanghainese preferred jazz to rock and roll. "Shanghai people are more sentimental and educated than Pekingers," he said. They are also brimming with self-confidence, even arrogance. Professor Shen Weibin, a 60-year-old history professor at Fudan University, explained: "Shanghai people think that if you want to succeed, you have to come to recognised here," said Profes-sor Shen. Or as Mr Tang put it: is determined to maintain con-trol over a capitalist eruption "Shanghainese think that peo-

ple from other Chinese cities are like peasants."

Success is again something to be flaunted - just like Hong Kong. Joining the Shanghai Race Chub was the status symbol of old Shanghai; nowadays it might be a \$94,000 (£57,000) life membership of the new Taiwan-financed Tomson Golf Course where, according to the hype, the bunkers are filled not with sand but with pulverised

white marble. With this revival, however, has also come uncertainty. The excitement and glamour are back, but so are old social problems. Mr Shen has witnessed the city's ups and downs and describes the mood of Shanghai people these days as "hope mixed with doubts".

The contradictions are everywhere to see; a hardline muwhich is enriching half the pop-

ulation while throwing hun-dreds of thousands of state enterprise workers on to the

scrap heap. A yawning wealth gap has opened up between those fashionably dressed Shanghainese and the legions of newly sacked textile workers. Unemployment among the population of 14 million is chronic as near-bankrupt state enterprises jettison staff, especially older people who find it difficult to adjust.

Zhu Junyi, director of the Shanghai Labour Bureau, has admitted a further 750,000 city workers are expected to be laid off in the next four years. Meanwhile, about three million migrant workers have flooded into town, the work fodder for a city which is being rebuilt by men with spades.

Looming over these conhai Communist government. Behind the superficial "anything goes" atmosphere, the

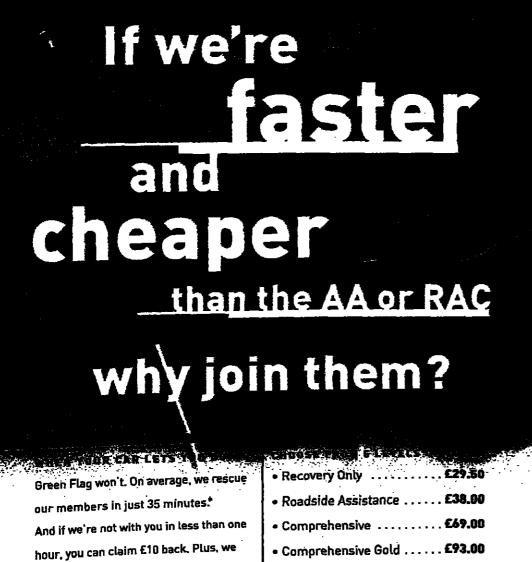
old apparatus is still firmly entrenched. The glistening 12-storey New World City department store, for instance, boasts of itself as "the aircraft carrier in the shopping sea". But venture on to the 9th floor administration area and the corridors are lined with doors marked "Communist Youth League", "Party Committee", "Trade Union Committee", and

on and on. Freedom of thought is no more welcome in this neon-dazzled city than anywhere else in China, and over the past three years virtually every remaining Shanghai pro-democracy or human rights activist has been sent to jail.

The city's cultural and material renaissance is taking place within strictly definied limits: while the spirit of Thirties back, there is little hope of it being any more democratic than

The bustling metropolis (left), which is attracting young Hong Kongers, is undergoing a cultural and material renaissance Photographs:Magnum





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## John Knopp

ly to the dramatic decrease in

numbers of PCB manufacturers

in the UK, Knopp started de-

veloping an entirely new ap-

proach, which he called Etch

Before Plate. It took him three

years to bring the process to a fully reliable state. He then

faced the socially complex hur-

dle of convincing a conservative industry of his credibility; mil-

lions of dollars, in one case, had

already been spent by one of the

largest corporations in research

laboratories supported by a

very substantial team of scien-tists only to conclude that such

an approach was impossible.

The early 1990s were frus-

trating times for Knopp, but

recognition gradually came as two of the more significant

John Knopp was an innovative electronics manufacturer who came to public notice as a principal in the "Aspire" consortium which, as the first step in a programme to put a British rocket into space, last October launched a seven-foot rocket

sex, in 1937, the seventh child of a seventh child. His father, a clarinettist in a military band, died when he was four, leaving the family, as he remembered, practically penniless and cold in a big house where if the allotment wasn't tended there was nothing to eat. He excelled at mathematics and science at primary school, passed the 11-plus examination and proceeded to a secondary technical school where he gained five O levels.

Here his considerable intellectual gifts became evident when he discovered an ingenious method of mental arith-metic which enabled him, in certain operations, to compete for speed and accuracy with handheld electronic calculators. This achievement won the admiration of his teacher and later made an outstanding par-lour trick. Unfortunately he never recorded the Theory of Round Numbers, as he called the process, and the associated significance that he saw in the magic number" of 137.

National Service saw Knopp dustry, the main competition in the RAF; he enlisted for a further 10 years as a radar technician, a period which gave him enormous pleasure. Apart from seeing activity in Cyprus and being parachuted into Suez. he also captained the service 2,500 feet in the air from Cricket team and played table tennis for England. More unusually, his quiet belief in the existence of UFOs stemmed from this time, when he witnessed innumerable instances on radar screens of fast-moving

unexplained objects.

Leaving the RAF in 1965, he joined IBM, working for 10 years on mainframe computer maintenance. In 1975 he started making printed circuit boards in his garden shed for an electronic organ he was building for his daughter. This in turn led to the establishment, on 1 January 1976, of Knopp Electronic Services Ltd in Braintree, Essex, supplying printed circuit boards for the mass-market

consumer electronics industry. The company flourished and expansion was rapid, particularly between 1982 and 1986 when products such as television sets and telephones were manufactured more widely in the UK. Despite the company's gaining many supplier awards for the quality of products, by 1992 two factors indicated difficult times ahead. First, in an increasingly price-sensitive in-

consumer electronics manuwas coming from Far Eastern facturers in Europe tried and manufacturers, primarily in Ko-rea, Taiwan, Malaysia and India. tested his method and verified its superiority. Secondly, since the late 1980s. Apart from achieving higher the increasing use of Integrat-

quality than competing processes, the new approach was clean environmentally inasmuch as no ed Circuits in consumer products was giving rise to a corresponding rise in demand for double-sided boards, where polluting chemicals are discharged. In an industry which is notoriously polluting, he was circuits are printed on both very proud that his factory had sides of a board instead of on not discharged any effluent one side. To move into doubleinto the sewers or even been sided board production would have required an investment of connected to them for several some £2m in new technology, an years; furthermore water reinvestment which was not quirements were minimal because the new process allowed Rather than face the declinall water to be treated and ing future which led eventual-

Had he lived, a major environmental award would surely have come his way, because the Etch Before Plate process is now being licensed world-wide and being taken up by major consumer electronics manufacturers both in the UK and

In the life of John Knopp it is possible to see the continu-ance of the industrial revolution of past centuries where skills and intelligence count for far more than paper qualifications.
Although without formal training, he maintained an active interest in many other scientific and engineering areas where he was never afraid to venture, latterly in the production of hy-drogen for hydrogen-powered

engines where he supported fundamental university research; in reproducing one of Kelvin's experiment in electrostarics which he christened his "thunderstorm experiment"; in providing space and financial support for the Aspire amateur rocket team at the behest of his friend the late Geoffrey Pardoe, former project manag-er of the Blue Streak Ballistic Missile project and President of the Royal Aeronautical Society, leading to successful launches of the Aspire 2 rocket; and in the work of Len Head and others in highvoltage electron therapy, where Knopp's energy and initiatives opened up many new possibilities which in due course will be

acknowledged. In Braintree he will be remembered for his generous support of many charities, clubs and events, including the company concert brass band. For these activities and more he received local recog-nition in 1994 in a Business Excellence Award from Braintree District Council for Outstanding Community Support.

M. A. Laughton John Frederick David Knopp. electronics manufacturer: born Wickford, Essex 28 June 1937: married 1963 Christine Tunni-cliffe (one daughter); died Braintree, Essex 26 May 1997.



Knopp with two prototype rockets from the Aspire programme, 1996

## **Professor Keble Sykes**

When John (later Lord) Fulton moved from being a philosophy don at Balliol to take up the Principalship of the University College of Swansea in 1947, he set in train a number of processes that were to make that small young college (it was founded in 1922) one of the most dynamic university establishments in the country - it certainly had one of the best undergraduate chemistry programmes among the 30 or so universities in Britain.

One reason for Fulton's success was that he took infinite pains - and saw to it that his heads of department did also in recruiting first-rate mem-bers of staff. One of the people he, and his inspired Professors of Chemistry. C.W. Shoppee and his predecessor, J.E. Coates, attracted to Swansea was Keble Sykes.

Before his departure from Oxford, Sykes was, from 1945 to 1948, a member of the trio of highly talented ICI Research Fellows in Sir Cvril Hinshelwood's Physical Chemistry Lab-



fessor of Mathematics at Oxford) and J.W. Linnett (later Head of the Department of Physical Chemistry at Cambridge).

At Oxford, Sykes had made a name for himself in Hinshelwood's laboratory by elucidating the mechanism of the gasification of carbon (coconut charcoals especially), and in particular he showed that the surface oxides formed when oratory, the others being C.A. such solids burn at high tem-Coulson (later Rouse Ball Pro-perature either in oxygen, steam

or carbon dioxide, were identical kinetically and probably structurally. For this work he was awarded the Sir George Beilby Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry and Chemical Society. (One of his students at this time was a Miss Margaret Roberts who later achieved a certain eminence outside the field of chemistry.)
At Swansea he extended

these studies and backed them up with adventures into the catalytic influences of alkali metal salts and transition metal oxides on the gasification of car-bons generally. His theoretical formulations as to why such additives significantly decrease the temperature at which car-bons oxidised led him, in turn. to predict sharp differences in reactivity between graphite and diamond, and also to undertake fundamental studies of other important industrial reactions such as the formation of volatile nickel carbonyl from metallic nickel and carbon monoxide. He and his early research students also investigated the thermodynamics and statistical fiendishly complicated interactions between carbon surfaces istry and 25 on structural inor-

and S₂, H₂S and COS, and in so doing clarified the mechanism of the formation of CS₂.

He also branched out into the spectroscopic solution chemistry of transition metal ions, focusing especially on the importance of hydration shells in elementary reactions such as the oxidation of aqueous iodide by ferric ions. This work attracted the attention of Swedish solution chemists, such as L.G. Sillen, who were pre-eminent in

But the impact of Sykes's sojourn at Swansea is not to be measured by his research endeavours, significant as those were. It was the phenomenal commitment to, and the intellectual authority that characterised, his undergraduate teaching that still make his former students (like me) marvel at what he managed to achieve in that exceptionally busy period of his life. Each year from 1948 to 1956, he gave 25 lectures on introductory chemical thermodynamics, 30 on advanced mechanics, 10 on radiochem-

ganic chemistry; in addition, he undertook six hours of laboratory supervision a week. These were not untypical

teaching loads for lecturers in provincial universities in those days. Sykes, however, went substantially further: he imported many of the admirable features of Oxbridge supervision into his teaching at Swansea. For example, once a week a class of some 150 first-year students were set three problems to soive. He marked all the scripts himself. Moreover. in his lectures to senior undergraduates, he took pains to advise them which original articles and specialised monographs to consult, and which not to. It was the kind of advice that he himself had been given at Queen's College. Oxford, where he was

an outstanding scholar. In 1956 he was appointed to the newly established Chair of Physical Chemistry at Queen Mary (now Queen Mary and Westfield) College. London University. The Head of the Department was then Professor Michael Dewar, and when he to all his colleagues at QMC. departed to the United States where he served as Dean of the

in 1959 Keble Sykes took up the reins and guided the department until 1978, when he became (sole) Vice-Principal, working closely and fruitfully with the Principal, Sir James

Menter. At QMC, Sykes soon established a thriving research group. His laboratory was housed in a wooden hut clad with corrugated iron, and there was a disconcerting tendency for rain to penetrate the roof and run down the wall beside the main fuse-box. Nevertheless, work on gas-solid reactions and on ionic solutions prospered. He continued his excellent teaching, and generations of students there, like those who listened to him in Swansea. benefited enormously from his deep understanding of chemical phenomena. They were also impressed by his modesty. humility and general human

Both in retrospect, and at the time, it was often said, "Keble Sykes is a gentleman." The respect he elicited endeared him

Faculty of Science (1970-73), as Vice-Principal from 1978 until his retirement in 1986, and as chairman of many key committees and working parties including the University Grants Committee's Physical Sciences Sub-Committee. He was subsequently elected an Honorary

ellow of the college. He also contributed much to the Chemical Society of London. He edited the society's special publication on Stability Constants, a reflection of his expertise in the subject of ionic solutions. He served as Honorary Secretary from 1960 to 1966, as Vice-President from 1966 to 1969, as a member of Council of the successor body, the Royal Society of Chemistry, from 1977 to 1980, as Chairman of the Publications and Information Board, the Chemistry in Britain Committee and the Benevolent Fund Committee.

Despite all these commitments, a full family life, wide outside interests ranging from gardening to photography and walking to DIY, as well as keen membership of the Highgate Literary and Scientific Institu-

tion, he found time to attend with his wife Margaret - whom he met when they were lecturers in Swansea - every college function (public lectures, carol services, charter week concerts. plays, graduate receptions international evenings and dances) for 30 years in Queen Mary College. The fact that Queen Mary and Westfield has now such an enterprising and well-equipped Department of Chemistry owes a great deal to the devotion and far-sightednes of this kindly and extraordinarily

John Meurig Thoma:

able man.

Keble Watson Sykes, chemist. born 7 January 1921; Lecturer in Chemistry, University College of Swansea, University of Wales 1948-51, Senior Lecturer 1951-56; Professor of Physical Chem-istry, Queen Mary (later Queen Mary and Westfield) College. London 1956-86, Head of Chemistry Department 1959-78. Dean. Faculty of Science 1970-73. Vice-Principal 1978-86; married 1950 Margaret Forsyth (three daughters, and one son deceased); died 24 May 1997.

## Richard Jaeckel

Blond, blue-eyed and stocky, the baby-faced Richard Jaeckel was a prolific character actor who specialised in ebullient, pugnacious youths, notably in war

films and westerns. Seemingly ageless, when he played the devious outlaw who tries to out-gun John Wayne in Chisum in 1970 he seemed little older than as the over-confident youngster who attempted to out-draw Gregory Peck in The Gunfighter 20 years earlier. An actor popular with the public and within the profession, in a 54-year career. Nominated for an Oscar for his supporting role in Sometimes a Great Notion (1971), he more recently had a recurring role in the television series Barwatch.

Born in Long Beach, New York, in 1926, he was working in the 20th Century-Fox mailroom when, in story-book fashion, he was selected to play a featured role in the studio's major war movie Guadalcanal Diary (1943). As an inexperienced teenage marine (nicknamed "Chicken") who distinguishes himself in hattle. Jaeckel made a strong impression in this popular adaptation of Richard Tregaskis' book ("Richard Jaeckel scores as a downy-faced juvenile," said Variety). He played Jaeckel was rarely out of work another serviceman, this time a young pilot on an aircraft cartier, in Henry Hathaway's fine account of events leading to the Battle of Midway, Wing and a Praver (1944), before spending four years in the US Navy.

Returning to Hollywood in 1948, he settled into steady employment in tough roles, as a delinquent in City Across the River (1949), soldiers in Sands of Iwo Jima and Battleground (both 1949) and cowboys in Wyoming Mail and The Gunfighter (both 1950). In the latter, Henry King's classic study of a notorious gunlighter's fu-tile attempt to discard his reputation and settle down, Jackel had one of his most memorable vignettes as the cocky youngster who sets off a tragic chain of events when, determined to prove himself faster with the gun than Johnny Ringo (Gregory Peck), he misguidedly provokes

the gunlighter into a duel. In Daniel Mann's Come Back, Little Sheba (1952), he had

a prime role as a college boy with sex on his mind who flirts agressively with the nubile Terry Moore and invokes the jealousy of her landlord (Burt Lancaster). At this time he seemed on the verge of stardom, but his stature and boyish appearance worked against him and he settled into a career of prominent but secondary roles in such action fare as Apache Ambush (1955). Cowbox (1955) and The Naked and the Dead (1958).

Two of the his finest films during this period were Robert Aldrich's uncompromising picture of corruption and incom-petence within the military. Attack! (1956), in which Jaeckel was a private under the command of a cowardly captain, and Delmer Daves' taut western 3:10 to Yuna (1957), in which Jaeckel was an outlaw determined to rescue a captured gang-leader (Glenn Ford) before he can be transported by train to the big city and justice.

In 1967 Jacckel played the no-nonsense sergeant who helps convert a motley bunch of military criminals into a viable fighting force in Aldrich's violent and enormously successful The Dirty Dozen, the biggestgrossing film of the year. Jaeckel's Sergeant Howren was one of the few characters to survive the film, and he recreated the role in the sequel made for television. The Dirty Dozen: The

Next Mission (1985). In the generally disappointing Sometimes a Great Notion

Never Give un Inch), directed by Paul Newman and based on Ken Kesey's novel about a family of loggers in Oregon, Jaeckel featured in one of the screen's most memorable and harrowing death scenes. Pinned underwater by a fallen tree, he slowly drowns as Newman desperately tries to free him. Despite the starry cast of Newman, Henry Fonda and Lee Remick, it was Jaeckel whose performance was unanimously lauded as the best thing in the film and he was nominated for an Academy Award as

Best Supporting Actor. Further film roles included Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid (1973). Twilight's Last Gleaning (1978), Starman (1985) and (1971, released in the UK as el's later work was primarily in 14 June 1997,

television. He starred in the series Frontier Circus (1961) with John Derek and Chill Wills, and as guest star on countless shows. including Bonanza. Wagon Train, Perry Muson, Gunsmoke, Have Gun Will Travel and Mission Impossible. In the mid-Eighties he had a role as Lt Quirk in the series Spenser. For Hire, and in 1991 and 1992, at last beginning to look his age. he played in Baywatch as Lt Ben Edwards, the grizzled veteran who co-ordinates rescue

Tom Vallance

Richard Jueckel, actor: born Long Beach, New York 10 October 1926; married (two sons); Delta Force 2 (1990), but Jacek- died Woodland Hills, California



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## Births, Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

NATUSCH: Kate and Douglas are pleased to announce that their daugh-ter Grace Alice was born at I am on Sunday 15 June, at Wythenshawe Hospital Manchester.

MEMORIAL SERVICES HARTLEY: Sir Frank, CBE DSc PhD FRSC FRPharmS FIC Hon FRCP

Hon FRCS Hon FRSC Hon LLD. Dean of the School of Pharmacy 1962-76. Vice-Chancellor of the Universi-ty of London 1976-78. There will be a Memoral Service for Sir Frank Hartley on Wednesday 9 July 1997 at St. George's Church, Bloomsbury Wey, Bloomsbury, London WC Way, Bloomsbury, London WC1, commencing at 2.30pm. For further information please telephone the Clerk's Office. The School of Phar-

For GAZETTE, telephone 0171-293 2012.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment in ourse to Queen of the Grand of Harpe Gamels, Harn F Corp-port volve it under manior the Queen's during all ma-lagebars. Palaces. If Scham, band provided by the shakes means. Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. J. Oades and Miss J. M. Read

The engagement is announced between Tim, son of the late Mr John Oades and of Mrs T. King, of Brentford, Middlesex, and Julianne, younger daughter of Mrs Mary Ken-ny, of Osterley, Middlesex.

Birthdays

Miss Eva Bartok, actress, 68; Mr Peter Batty, television and film producer, 66: Mr James Bishon, former Editor-in-chief, Illustrated London News Publications, 68: Mr Michael Blakemore, freelance theatre director, 69; Mr Ian Carmichael, actor, 77; Mr Carl de Winter, former secretaryeral, Federation of British Artists, 63; Mr Ian Hargreaves. Editor, New Statesman, 46; Miss Patricia Hutchinson, former ambassador to Uruguay, 71: Mr Roy Jackson, former assistant general secretary, TUC, 69: Mr John Kelsall, Headmaster, Brentwood

School, 54; General Sir Brian Kenny. Governor, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 63: Sir Dennis Landau, former chief executive, CWS, 70; Mr Paul Mayersberg, novelist and scriptwriter, 56; Sir Paul McCartney. songwriter, 55; Miss Alison Moyet, singer, 36; Sir Peter Phillips, former chairman, AB Electronics, 67: Miss Isabella Rossellini, actress, 45; Miss Delia Smith, cook, 56.

Anniversaries

Births: Robert Stewart. Viscount Castlereagh, second Marquess of Londonderry, statesman, 1769; Sammy Cahn (Samuel Cohen). lyri-cist, 1914. Deaths: Roald Amandson. explorer, lost in the Arctic 1928; Douelas Robert Jardine, cricketer, 1958; Ethel Barrymore, actress. 1959. On this day: the English were defeated by the French under Joan of Arc at the Battle of Patay, 1429, the Duke of Wellington defeated the French under Napoleon at the Battle of Waterioo, 1815; Waterloo Bridge over the Thames in London opened. 1817; Adolf Hitler's book Mein Kampf was published, 1925. Today is the Feast Day of St Amandus of Bordeaux, St Elizabeth of Schonau, Saints Gregory, Demetrius and Calogerus and Saints Mark and

Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Pictures in Pictures (nii): Flemish. Cognoscenti in a Room Hung with Pictures", 1pm.

Victoria and Albert Museum: Louise Leates, "17th and 18th-century Art in Holland: Delftware, glass and silver", 2.30pm; Hilary Williams, "The London of John Nash", 7.15pm (tickets required). Tate Gallery: Anthony Bailey. "Turn er: the man, 6.30pm.

Commonwealth Parliamentary

mons, presided.

Association The Annual General Meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary As-sociation (UK Branch) was held esterday in the House of Commons London SW1. Miss Betty Boothroyd MP, Speaker of the House of Com-

## Tariff element in sentences on child murderers wrong Regina v Secretary of State for the

Home Department, ex parte Venables; Regina v Same, ex parte Thompson; House of Lords (Lord Golf of Chicycley, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Steyn, Lord Hope of Craighead) 12 June 1997

A policy whereby the Home Secretary set an inflexible tariff period to be served by a child sentenced to detention during Her Majesty's pleasure was unlawful. In deciding on the tariff period, it was legitimate for the Home Secretary to take account of public concern of a general nature, but not of public clamour directed towards the

decision in a particular case. The House of Lords, Lord Goff and Lord Lloyd dissenting, allowed cross-appeals by the applicants, and Lord Lloyd dissenting, dismissed the appeal of the Home Secretary. Jon Venables and Robert

Thompson, both aged 11, were convicted of the murder of the two-year-old James Bulger. They were aged 10 at the time of the murder. They were sentenced to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure pur-suant to section 53(1) of the

Home Secretary, the trial judge recommended that the actual length of detention necessary to meet the requirements of the penal element" or "tariff" should be eight years. The Lord Chief Justice advised the Home Secretary that it should be increased to 10 years.

The Home Secretary, acting pursuant to his discretion under section 35 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 and a policy statement dated 27 July 1993. decided that the penal clement should be increased to 15 years. In his decision letters and other correspondence with the applicants' solicitors it was stated that he had had regard inter alia to public concern about the case, evidenced by petitions urging that the two boys should be detained for life or for a minimum of 25 years; and coupons cut from a popular newspaper, together with letters, demanding a life tariff. The Divisional Court quashed the Home Secretary's decisions. and his appeal to the Court of Appeal failed.

LAW REPORT 18 June 1997

return: Edward Fuzerald QC and Ben Emmerson (Ginnsons, Sheffield) for Cenables, Brian Hogs QC and Julian Nutter (Paul Resour & Co. Liverpool)

Lord Browne-Wilkinson said that the Home Secretary had adopted a tariff policy in evereising his discretion whether to release adults who had been sentenced to life imprisonment. Having received advice from the trial judge and the Lord Chief Justice he made his own decision as to the minimom period to be served to satisfy the elements of retribution and deterrence. That was the

tariff period. The policy provided that, until three years before the tariff period expired, the Home Secretary would not refer the case to the Parole Board. Moreover, until the tariff period had expired he would not exercise his discretion to release on licence. In a statement to Parliament on 27 July 1993 the Home Secretary had made clear that the tariff system

Majesty's pleasure as it did to adult murderers. The sentence of detention

during Her Majesty's pleasure was not the same as a life sentence passed on an adult prisoner. In setting the tariff of 15 years for the applicants the Home Secretary was applying an unlawful policy. The unlawfulness lay in adopting a policy which totally excluded from consideration during the tariff period factors (i.e. their progress and development) necessary to determine whether release from detention would be in the interests of the

welfare of the applicants. Such welfare was one of the factors which the Home Secretary had to take into account in deciding from time to time how long the applicant should he detained. That did not mean that in relation to children detained during Her Majesty's pleasure any policy based on a tariff would be unlawful, but it would have to be sufficiently flexible to enable the Home Children and Young Persons David Pannick QC and Mark Shaw applied to children sentenced the progress of the child and his development, In relation to

children the factors of retribution, deterrence and risk were not the only relevant factors: the welfare of the child was also a relevant factor.

Lord Goff said that the Home Secretary, in fixing the penal element of a life sentence or a sentence of detention during Her Majesty's pleasure. was exercising a function closely analogous to a judge's sentencing function. He was under a duty to act within the same constraints as a judge when exercising the sentencing function.

In considering whether he had been entitled to have regard to the petitions and other material referred to in his decision letters, a distinction should be drawn between public concern of a general nature with regard to, for example, the need to punish the perpetrators of certain prevalent offences, and public clamour that a particular offender should be singled out for severe punishment. It was legitimate for a sentencing authority to take the former into account. but not the latter, and the Home Secretary had erred in the present case.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

Puritans in pursuit of for hunters

## The political challenge of another Irish outrage

ompare and contrast. In Ams-tion becomes: is there a case for talkterdam the leaders of countries locked for centuries in bitter strife - Catholics and Protestants, old enemies, ideological rivals - come together to talk, debate, win some, lose some. No one can say the recent history of European union has been especially edifying but at its core shines a big, bright and supremely attractive idea: peace. History is not alldetermining.

At the same time, on Europe's periphery, atavistic nationalism claims two more victims. In Lurgan two community policemen were killed, murdered by an organisation which seems to have no idea of or interest in that wider Europe where states and sovereignties are in flux, where national borders are - for most practical purposes - disappearing. In that wider view, history long ago passed by the IRA and its political party Sinn Fein. No conceivable 21st-century future for Ulster or for the Republic of Ireland or indeed - notionally - for an island of Ireland as a single political entity contains their methods, their ideas or their bloody allegiances.

But none of that means the IRA is going to fade away, at least in the short to medium run; nor does it mean that Sinn Fein's support is going suddenly to evaporate on the dreary Catholic estates of Belfast or Londonderry. So after the shootings in Lurgan the ques-

ing to the terrorist nationalists and their political henchmen, even if there is every suspicion that "peace" (in that irenic sense detectable in Amsterdam) is something their very identity forbids. The answer from London (delivered by Tony Blair in Amsterdam) was no, at least for the time being. From Washington it was "probably not" and from Dublin (from prime minister-designate Ahern, who was scheduled to see Gerry Adams tomorrow) "maybe". We say that one way or another the talking has to go on. If stopped now, as a mark of respect for those murdered RUC officers, it has to be resumed. That is for one simple reason: fewer people are likely to be killed or harmed while the extremists are included, however marginally, in the conversation about Northern Ireland's future.

There is no point pretending that talking has achieved much so far. If the all-party talks which formally opened last June were a train, it would still be creeping along the departure platform, people still hanging out of the doors. And that is with Sinn Fein still kicking around on the concourse.

And now the marching season approaches. Mo Mowlam says sincerely that she will leave no stone unturned in seeking to persuade marchers and estate residents to compromise, negotiate, agree. But her interlocutors are not the people on the



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E145DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 3405 / 0171-345 2435

ground. They remain deaf to her pleas.
On the Garvachy Road they have "what ifs" imply there was a desire on already been persuaded by Sinn Fein to make the march a flashpoint. In the Orange lodges they are determined, once again, to demonstrate their historical enthralment, regardless of cost.

By early July the Blair government, which offered a real opportunity for Northern Ireland, could be reduced to administering a state of siege. There is little point in regretting lost opportunity - and yet ... The appointment of Ms Mowlam, the new Prime Minister's fresh face, the British government's

the part of the nationalist extremists to give up, even temporarily, the "armed struggle".

As things are turning out, the Blair government's peaceful intent served as useful cover for Sinn Fein in the Northern Irish local and the Republic's general elections. The tactic worked, a ballot paper in one hand and a gun in the other. There is a crude sense in which the trigger pulled in Lurgan on Monday was pulled in some metaphorical sense by all those thousands of votwillingness to talk, so much might ers who elected Martin McGuinness

and Gerry Adams as MPs and, in the Irish election, Caoimhghin O'Caolain into the Dail. At some point Republican voters have to take responsibility for the violence committed in response to their support.

The challenge facing Ms Mowlam, and Tony Blair behind her, is to fight the fires this summer and manage the inevitable security crises, while reserving some space, some energy, some hope for the resumption of politics. However hot, the season of marches and mayhem will eventually end. The question will again be: can there be a peace process without the participation of the extremist nationalists? The answer is no. But what is the minimum entry ticket, one that is politically acceptable in London let alone for the Unionists in Belfast? It is, and has to be. a cease-fire, accompanied by longterm professions of peaceful intent by Messrs McGuinness and Adams. It will not be acceptable to have that interspersed with bombing and shooting, and it must never become acceptable.

What kind of talks? Ms Mowlam must at least consider abandoning the 1996 effort, agenda-less after a year, and think about some alternative. One idea is to use the Dayton, Ohio proceedings which led to Bosnian peace as a model - to convene a group of "experts", get them to hammer out the basic accord then confront sectional chiefs with their work. But why should

the Unionists buy a Dayton accord when they scarcely accepted Mitchell let alone the North compromise on marching? On the Dayton analogy, at some point the conference chair has to twist arms, some of them hard. That would probably mean Tony Blair having to cajole the Unionists - an evil fate for a Labour prime minister with so much else to strive for and accomplish away from the dark Ulster mire.

## Shrinking lunch, expanding waist

Once, so government propaganda films reported, the workforce downed tools at 12.30pm to troop along to the canteen for meat, two veg and pudding - serenaded by Workers' Playtime on the radio. Nowadays, it's all go. Lunch is suspended. A survey out today says a third of working women never stop for a midday break. The average worker takes only 33 minutes for lunch and since they spend only £1.45 on their food, they are unlikely to be eating much more than a sandwich. These figures help explain why productivity increases each year. But it leaves a puzzle. If we are consuming less at lunch-time, how is it that waist sizes are still rising? Do we stuff our-selves silly at breakfast, or gorge in front of the telly all evening? It's a mystery.

## • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

### Puritans in pursuit of fox-hunters

Sir: Thank you for publishing Polly Toynbee's sensible and well reasoned article against the banning of fox-hunting ("Labour should go to earth on fox-hunting". 16 June).

As a fox-hunter I think I can say that Labour will be unpleasantly surprised by the amount of anger and resentment that this bill will arouse among a very large number of people, not all of them directly effect of a ban will be appalling and in any case it is an unwarranted intrusion into people's private lives, activities and opinions that smacks of the worst sort of puritanism. I think it a very great pity that they have seen fit to address this issue now, as it detracts from the record of a government that so far in its short life has shown itself to be both willing and able to address really important matters.

I say that with the grudging admiration of one who didn't even vote for them, and here they are caving in to the first shove from a pressure group. It doesn't show them in a good light. They should think again. Mrs A SPURRIER Litton Cheney, Dorset

Sir. To Polly Toynbee's excellent article on fox-hunting only two points need to be added:

1. There are rural communities for which hunting, as well as supplying an important source of revenue and employment (custom in hotels, pubs, B&B, the breeding and care of horses and hounds, jobs for hunt staff), also performs a valuable social function, providing free entertainment to huge numbers of foot followers as well as sport for the riders. Such communities would suffer both economically and socially from a ban and, no doubt, be left feeling alienated by the urban-dominated

concerns of current MPs. 2. The death of the hunted fox may be violent but the diseased, mangy, lingering demise of those that survive to perish from natural causes is infinitely worse. FERNANDA PIRIE

Sir. Of the huge majority of MPs to vote in favour of a total ban on handguns I wonder how many will vote against a ban on fox-hunting with hounds. After all, if this type of hunting does stop, the almost certain result will be a huge increase in shotgun ownership in rural areas in order to control the

Sadly I think that there are those in Parliament who see the right of a fox to savage, but never be savaged, as somehow above all other issues. What the people who oppose the use of hounds do not understand is that the world of wildlife or nature is a much more violent world than that of human civilisation.

Wildlife is largely about animals ripping each other apart, and fox numbers have been kept down in that way - nature's way - long before the involvement of humans. Anyway, much more painful ways of killing these animals are used where hunting is already banned.
One such method is hours of agonising entrapment followed by shooting. PFKEVAN

London N8 Sir: Polly Toynbee has got it wrong about fox-hunting. Fishing is not the equivalent working class



bloodsport. It is the baiting of badgers, bulls or bears, and dog and cock-fighting, and they have been banned for years, probably because, unlike fox-hunting, they have not had influential friends to defend them.

Some intensive farming practice are indeed cruel, but what justification is that for savaging live foxes to death?

If a thing is wrong, it's wrong, and I hope Parliament ignores Ms Toynbee's red herring and proscribes this ugly relic whose surface glamour masks its vicious

reality.

JAMES SCOTT Milton Keynes

Sir. Polly Toynbee's amusing monologue uses far too many euphemisms. Make no mistake ripping to pieces any animal is cruel, sadistic and tells a little too much about the society in which we live. There is an alternative to this barbaric so-called sport - draghunting. An alternative which allows "rural pleasure" without the distasteful murder of the fox. Surely a compromise the hunting lobby can stomach? PAUL BELL Learnington Spa, Warwickshire

Sir. When will those in opposition, and the media, stop comparing hunting with hounds to bearbaiting, cock-fighting, and dogfighting.

These so-called "sports", in which the hapless victim had no possibility of escape, were nothing more than the animal equivalent of boxing: an equally unattractive "sport" which must eventually be banned by a caring, socialist state.
NICHOLAS KESTER Manlen, Kent

### Tribal peoples are just like us

Sir: Reading your piece about the Dayaks in Saturday's "Letter From the Editor" (14 June) was a bit like being cornered by a saloon bar philosopher. With its bluff-good-sensical tone (Hell's Teeth ... "cultural practices" as I should apparently call them ... political correctness carded far beyond satire) it neatly exemplified the unconsidered prejudice that Stephen Cory (letter, 13 June) was criticising.

You say: "Where once ignorant Europeans thought tribal peoples little better than monkeys, some breast-beating campaigners are now close to an inverted error, thinking of surviving indigenous peoples as ecological angels, more virtuous than fallen, corrupt or 'civilised' peoples." In fact, both these apparently contradictory views are part of the same European tradition. which goes back at least as far as the late Middle Ages, when European explorers regularly reported encountering "gentle" people in an "earthly paradise" as well as "men living like beasts". The link between these two images of the "savage" is that they both see tribal peoples as versions of our (European) past -either a Golden Age from which we have lapsed, or a bestial state from which we have riscn.

The most recent incarnation of this notion is the anthropological belief, first expressed by Edward B Tylor in the 1880s, that the "savage state in some measure represents an early condition of mankind, out

of which the higher culture has gradually been developed or evolved". It is this evolutionary model which you seem unquestioningly to accept, with your references to archaeology and your assertion that "there is such a

thing as progress. And it does involve giving up cannibalism."

If "there is such a thing as progress" it doesn't seem to have prevented us outdoing our ancestors in brutality during the 20th century. Arguably the cruellest and most destructive regimes in history, Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia, both emerged in "advanced" Europe during the past 80 years. Both of them, moreover. used evolutionary ideologies - one racial, the other historical - to justify the murder of millions of

biological or social "undestrables" Our tendency to see tribal peoples simply as anachronistic remnants of our own past (either idyllic or bestial) is unhealthy both for us and for them. It is infantile projection to say that we are behaving like "sadistic tribal killers" when we are brutal ~ all we are really doing is behaving like ourselves - or, conversely, to think that we are tapping into some timeless ancestral nature-wisdom when we join Greenpeace. Tribal peoples are not emblems of our lost mnocence or our suppressed savagery; they are our contemporaries (and among the most peaceful and least destructive communities in the world). Like us. they are full, complex human

beings, acting according to their

experience and understanding of

Past letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056:

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edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

the universe and capable of cruelty and generosity, stupidity and hatred, genius and heroism. JAMES WILSON

Bristol

Sir: On the day (9 June) that you reported on allegations of cannibalism among the Dayaks, I chanced to be reading Alfred Russel Wallace's The Malay Archipelago (1869). His experience in Borneo led him to a high opinion of the Dayaks - above the Malays in mental capacity and undoubtedly superior in moral character. He found them truthful, honest, temperate in food and drink despite oppression by their Malay and Chinese neighbours.

He gives many examples of their harmonious relationship with their environment and their ingenuity in construction, particularly in their use of bamboo. In these opinions he appeared to have the support of Sir James Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak, and it seems a long way from the impression given by your reports. FRANK PENFOLD Burpham, West Sussex

### Freudian PR

Sir: I enjoyed Rosie Millard's piece on the Freud clan, whose talent for publicity is indeed remarkable (16 lune). In this context it is interesting to note that Edward Bernays, the American inventor of public relations as a business discipline, was Sigmund's nephew. Professor JAMES LINDESAY Edith Weston, Rutland

Bra Wars blaze out anew

Sir: Time to launch a salvo into the Bra Wars ("Breast beating and tantrums in ad land", 12 June). Despite the claims of Trevor Beattie, Sam Hurford and Murray Partridge with regard to the origin of the Wonderbra "Hello Boys" advertising campaign, one need look no further than Mel Brooks. His film Blazing Saddles (1974) contains a scene where Brooks, as the corrupt Governor William J Le Petomane, is asked to sign a bill to "snatch 200,000 acres of Indian Territory". He suddenly turns to his bikini-

lad secretary, seated alongside him, peers deeply into her cavernous cleavage and says:
"Hello, boys ... Have a good night's rest?... I missed you." This leaves the claims of the aforementioned advertising creatives totally without support. Sorry, boys. RAYMOND CHRISTODOULOU London W2

### Nuclear leaks

Sir: According to Open University figures, radio-isotopes of zenon and krypton entered the environment following the Three Mile Island nuclear accident (report, 3 June; letter, 13 June).

In fact there have been three severe accidents involving radiation release. To Chernobyl and Three Mile Island must be added the Windscale reactor fire in October 1957, which released iodine 131, krypton 85 and polonium 210 into the environment. GRANT HOLE **Henford** 

### How to get bags on to the bus

Sir. The Government encourages us to leave our cars at home in favour of public transport. Among several related initiatives is the opening of new "park and ride" schemes for our town centres. Most of those passengers will be shoppers faced with the task of getting their purchases on and off

the buses and into their cars.
In the 1950s sea transport of general goods was revolutionised by the invention of the container, a standard sized box which would fit into any vessel designed to carry it. Soon most general cargo vessels had been suitably adapted or built to carry containers and ports had been equipped to handle them expeditiously, and with minimum

Shopping bags and trolleys come in every conceivable size and shape, most are awkward to handle and none is designed to be compatible with our public transport systems. If passengers could purchase from a limited range of standard-sized bags and trolleys, and buses and trains were designed specifically to accommodate them, for instance in special racks at platform or road level, travel with luggage on public transport could be transformed. RHÍPHARVEY

### Lottery cash for redundancies

Sir. Anthony Bevins and David Lister mistakenly claim that the Arts Council of England has made a "discreet change" in its guidance on the use of Lottery money ("Lottery funds Royal Opera payoffs", 16 June).

The article states that we have adopted a "new interpretation" in order to fund redundancies caused by Lottery-related closures. This is not so. The Arts Council's published guidance clearly states that "redundancy costs created by closure" are allowable. This has always been the case. Indeed, some lottery funded projects have already received money as a contribution to redundancy costs.

Redundancies are always regrettable. However, in the case of the Royal Opera House, this option will be considerably more economical than the alternative of continuing to fund jobs which will not be required while the theatre is closed. In the long-term, of course, the Lottery is a major creator of employment. Nearly 18,000 jobs have been generated in its first 18 months.

GRAHAM DEVLIN Acting Secretary-General The Arts Council of England London SWI

Messy grammar

Sir: Myself, I like the idea of a Tuareg daintily wiping his/her feet with a toe-rag after treading grapes, but I fear Walter Roberts ("Grammarians weep! The hell tolls for 'whom' ", 14 June) is way off beam as the true derivation is quite different and far smellier/more smelly.

Coarse rags made from towcoloured flax or jute were commonly used a century or more ago to clear up the most revolting mess - in hospitals and prisons for example; hence the term "filthy little tow-rag" to describe someone of stomach-iuming vileness. JOHN APPLETON Northampton

# Sexy, moral and packing a pistol



Sara Paretsky, the creator of the best-selling feminist detective VI (Victoria) Warshawski, describes how she came to create her feisty heroine

grow up white in America in the 1950s was to enjoy education, housing, food, and safety in a measure not accessible to much of the rest of the world. I am well aware that I speak from a position of considerable privilege.

At the same time, I speak after years of strug-gle to find a voice. In that distant Eden we little girls knew we were destined to be mommies. We didn't worry about careers. Those of us planning a university education knew we were studying not for our own benefit. but to make us better wives and mothers (indeed, when Yale University first opened its doors to women in 1965, its president assured horrified alums that Yale's sole aim was to prepare women to become better wives and mothers by giving them the best education America could provide).

When I was a child, while boys planned lives as firefighters or cowboys, we girls dreamed of our weddings. When Roxanne Farrell "had to get married" in our sophomore year of high school, to us the most tawdry part was that she bought her trousseau at Woolworth's. Good girls who waited until they graduated from high school or college bought fancy bridalwear at the Plaza in Kansas City.

The books we read supported the idea of marriage as our only real goal. That was certainly the important message in that most enduring children's book, Little Women. At the end of Little Women, Jo. who is rebellious and ambitious in the early part of the book, is married. The mother of two small sons, she is running a boy's boarding school in Aunt March's old home and renounces her adolescent dream of becoming a great writer. She says to Marmee and her sisters:

The life I wanted then seems selfish, lonely. and cold to me now. I haven't given up the hope that I may write a good book yet, but I can

In Jo March, the rebellious female is tamed

Civil Servants

Teachers

Lecturers

NHS Staff

Police

Nurses

Fire Service

Prison Officers

Ambulance Service

Post Office Staff

Town Hall Employees

and turned into a servant of the male - a reflection of Louisa May Alcott's own life, spent in an unhappy servitude to her father.

Crime fiction throughout much of this cen-tury supported the values of America's golden age. Good girls were chaste, bad girls were not. Chaste girls could not act effectively. Unchaste girls could, but were only able to commit evil

Notable 20th century heroines include Car-men Sternwood of *The Big Sleep*. The first time Carmen sees Philip Marlowe, in the hallway of her father's house, she engages in a little sexual byplay.

Mariowe tells us: [S]he turned her body slowly and lithely, without lifting her feet. Her hands dropped limp at her sides. She tilted herself towards me on her toes. She fell straight back into my arms. I had to catch her or let her crack her head on the ressellated floor. I caught her under her arms and she went rubber-legged on me instantly. I had to hold her close to hold her up. When her head was against my chest she screwed it around and

adult supervision - or a good chiropractor. All through this century, indeed, throughout the millennia, imaginary women have been using their bodies to try to make good boys do bad things, but - as Marlowe was in The Big Sleep the heroes have been too strong for them.

Don't try this manoeuvre at home without

From my first reading of American hardboiled novels in my early twenties I knew I wanted to create a female detective who turned the tables on these negative images of women. But I was still living then in the world of day-dreams. I could imagine myself with a finished book in print, but I couldn't imagine myself actually writing it.

It wasn't until I was in my early thirties, working as a manager for CNA Insurance, that I actually sat down to turn the stories I told in my head

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into what you see in print. When I started work on my first book, Indemnity Only, it was with the definite goal of creating a female detective who was a person, not an angel or a monster. But I wasn't thinking of what it means to be a woman hero in a positive way. I knew what I didn't want my detective to be, but not what she should be. As a result, I put her into the mainstream of the hard-boiled form - orphaned, with a Smith & Wesson, drinking whisky - instead of thinking about what special role a woman detective might

The one aspect of my detective I was thinking about consciously was her sexuality and the role of sex in my stories. Serial killers who torture women or children, rapists who prey on women and children, play an enormous - and enormously titilizing - role in today's fiction. I vowed not to use sex to exploit my characters - or readers. I also wanted my hero, V I. to be a sexual being and a moral person at the same time. Too often the unmarried career woman in the modern mystery has depraved sexual appetites and has to die. In other cases, she may not be depraved but her appetites take a lot of satiation.

T's emotional involvements do sometimes cloud her judgements. That is a fact of life for men and women both. V I does have lovers, but her sexuality does not prohibit her from making clear moral judgements and acting on them.

For women to find a voice, a voice telling them that they may have adventures, that action is a woman's appropriate sphere, has been the difficult task of the last several centuries. This barrage of imagery urging us to silence - indeed, suggesting that rape and dismemberment are appropriate responses to women who speak is difficult to overcome.

me in isolation, to denigrate my abilities, to make me the nursery maid and housekeeper for their sons, the effort to find and sustain a voice has been exhausting.

For me the true beroes are those who speak, more than those who act, those who can speak above the silencing clangour. My own heroine, V I is a woman of action. But her primary role is to speak. She says those things which I - which many women - are not strong enough to say for ourselves. That is why she can grow older, unlike most fictional detectives - because her success depends not so much on what she does, but on her willingness to put into words things that most people would rather remained unspoken.

I am myself not heroic. I get the shakes when I have to face angry or disapproving people. I find it hard to say "no" to people when they demand of me that which I don't wish to do. Too often I've been bullied out of supporting penple or ideas that are important to me.

But my heroine has a voice. V I grew up in poverty and her adult finances are always precarious. She must overcome serious obstacles in her work. She possesses no amazing well of skills in dancing, horsemanship, fencing or diving to draw on. She speaks Italian because her mother was a poor immigrant, not because her wealthy family gave her private tutors and sent her to Europe for study. V I does drive a sporty red roadster, but she has trouble keeping up the payments, and she often comes home to a dirty apartment, to find an empty larder or rotting

In the years since my first book appeared, we have seen enormous changes in the mystery. Whereas it took me almost a year to find a publisher willing to take a chance on a woman detec-

all too often look at women only in the tired old ways: In the last 10 or 15 years, as women's voices have grown stronger, the

tions to look at works by women.

punishment of active women has also increased - at least in fiction. As a nod to the times imaginary women may have careers, but career women are deranged, with perverse sex-ual appetites, as Alix Forrest was in Fatal Attraction, or Carolyn Polhemus in Presumed Innocent. They may have to be brutalised or have to be rescued by the hero from rape.

At the same time, books and movies still

hen I was a teenager. The Feminine Mystique was a national bestseller. Today, V hordes of young American women are buying a book called The Rules, which tells them how to return to the constricting society of my

It makes me fretful, anxious to be standing close to my own half-century mark and see that my granddaughter is growing up in a world that still does not grant full humanity to women. I think of the great difficulty with which I came to a writing voice, the difficulty with which I maintain that voice, and wonder when it will become routine for a little girl to grow up with the sense that her "destiny" lies in words.

Twenty six hundred years ago, the poet Sapoho - who saw the goddess descend from the neavens in a chariot drawn by sparrows - wrote:

Although they are Only breath, words Which I command

My words do not come from me with the ease of breath: they are rather like water squeezed hardly from a rock. The sparrows outside my window don't bring me goddesses in chariots (although I keep hoping). They are hard-scrabbling urban birds, trying to stay alive in a world that's rough on small creatures, and on poets.

A few years ago a group of women came to a public event I did in Chicago. They introduced themselves to me afterwards as wives of out-ofwork steelworkers. With the death of the mills on Chicago's south side, some of their husbands had been unemployed for five years or more; these women worked two jobs, as waitresses or check-out clerks, to keep food on the table and a roof overhead. They told me they had not read a book since leaving high school until someone told them V I came from their neighbourhood. They came to my lecture to tell me that the bluecollar girl detective helped them get through this

very difficult hand that life had dealt them.
So although my words are only water squeezed from a rock, I hope that they may bridge a gap, help us all return to that time when girl poets as well as boys can grow up with the knowledge that their destiny lies in words.

### tive in America's third largest city, we now have The writer is a visiting fellow at Wolfson so many books with women heroes that I can't College, Oxford University. The above is an In my own case, growing up under the keep track of them all. Women now routinely excerpt from a recent lecture. The bald truth about William Hague

t the time of writing A this, I do not know who the new Tory party leader is, but I hope it is William Hague, because that means that the modest five bob I placed on him at the bookie's will have been. changed into a magnificent, lottery-sized 25 bob. And it will prove that I can detect a historical pattern at work in the upper reaches of politics.

To put it another way, it was historically inevitable that a young, balding man should be elected Tory leader.

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Why? Because John Major was grev-haired, that's why. So it had to be a young, bald man next.

Let me explain. Twenty or 30 years ago it was highly unfashionable to be grey-haired, unless you were old enough to be greyhaired. If you spotted elements of grey coming into your hair, you hastily poured dye on to it. Well, it wasn't called dye by then. It was called Grecian 2000 or something, and described not as a dye but as a tinting agent or colour enhancer or

Thirty years ago grey hair wasn't fashionable. Then it began to be fashionable, as younger people owned up to it. No longer did they dye their hair, they let it grow greyer. They even changed the name to make it sound trendy. No longer grey, it was "silvery", or just plain
"distinguished". Then, after

a Prime Minister whose hair was the colour of the sort of bronze ashtray you buy in cheap shops in India (I refer to Margaret Thatcher), we had a Prime Minister who looked sort of young and yet had grey hair. It was in fact about the time that John Major ascended Downing Street that silvery/grey/ pearly/distinguished hair become acceptable among

younger men. So, whatever else may have happened during John Major's tenure - and it's hard to think of anything else now except the Scott report and BSE - at least one major development occurred. It became OK for younger men to start going silver. Well done, John. Mark you. towards the end, your hair looked pretty white to me, John, but let's say it was



Miles Kington

silver on average. Which means you must have brought a lot of comfort to young advertising executives and marketing consultants who wanted to seem young but couldn't stop their hair

turning silver/grey/white. However, this wasn't much comfort to other young men who weren't turning grey but going straight to baldness. Where was their role model? What young, bald man could make them look good? There was the occasional clean-shaven poll like Duncan Goodhew's, but what men really wanted was

a young, balding man who was still thought of as young. There have been good guys who have had not a hair on their head, such as Yul Brynner and Telly Savalas, and thousands of monks in Buddhist countries, but they never looked hald - they just looked clean-shaven, My favourite bald guy was always the black blues singer Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson, who suggested teasingly in his songs that his baldness was the secret of his success with women. But what men

were getting thin on top, was a young, balding role model. There was John Cleese, who started going bald and then acquired a thatch patch. Well, fine for people who had the time and money. There was Bobby Charlton and Robert Robinson, who carefully combed what was left across their bare pates. Well, fine for people who didn't mind looking

needed, especially men who

ridiculous. But these were men who tried to stem the tide, and we all know now that there is no point trying to stem the tide. In the great Quentin Crisp's wise words, don't try to go against the

flow - go faster than the flow. If you are going bald,

he once said, cut all your hair Which brings us to William Hague.

Once upon a time, William Hague stood up at the Tory party conference looking like a little boy and delivered a speech so mature it might have been dreamt up by a 20-year-old Tory.

He became famous for looking like a choirboy and sounding like a young man. Now he is standing up. looking like an elder

statesman and still sounding like a young man. I would not go so far as to say that he has given baldness a sense of style, but

he has certainly told people that it is all right to be under 40 and balding. He has seen off older people with flowing locks, like Michael Howard and Peter Lilley. He has sent out the message: "OK. baldies of the world unite you don't have to feel old any more!"

It's not great as a party slogan and a rallying cry.
But it's a lot better than the Tories had any right to expect so soon.

coloriser or something.

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While bicker chang

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## THE INDEPENDENT • WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 1997

## While the Tories bicker, politics is changing shape

The Conservative Party is not itself. After last night's agomisingly close vote, it is broken in two; there is something profoundly symbolic and, for traditional Tories, equally ominous in the simple revelation that this party, once so adept at falling behind a new leader, is absolutely

at a loss about which way to jump. Whether Hague wins and leads the party further on its ideological kick, or whether it has a rush of reason to the head and plumps for Clarke, it is hard to see how either man can hold this thing together. Look closely at the faces after last night's vote and you see people who are still in deep, delirious denial. There is something fundamentally unseri-ous about politicians who clearly think that these are still days for score-settling and ideology, not for rethinking and humility. I watch them and think they are a little nuts - high - several front-

benchers short of an Opposition. Tony Blair, meanwhile, must wonder if his luck will ever end. Just as the sky darkens a little over his new administration murders in Ulster, hard choices coming on public spending - he is offered the political equivalent of another few score on his Commons majority.

That is what the leadership fight seems to mean. Whether some moderate Tory MPs defect, or merely sit as a coherent, self-organised parliamentary splinter group, the prospect of a united main opposition party looks increasingly remote.

At bottom, the anti-Clarke camps seem bizarrely complacent. They think the party is something that can be reformed on anti-EMU, even anti-EU, lines, then Man-

delson-ised, and can wait for the pendulum to swing. There will be a jolly few years of money-making and social life; the electorate will see sense; then it will be jobs for the chaps

And, of course, there is a respectable case for thinking that Blair and Co may foul things up and that one landslide may be followed by another. In politics, the only safe prediction is that the pundits will be confounded. (It is our constitutional function.)

But this thinking badly underestimates the scale of the Blairite project. Its ambition is to remake British politics, so that the broad, consensual middle-ground - pro-European but not federalist, pro-business but with a social conscience - is so firmly embedded in a grand

political alliance as to be unmovable. That's the ambition. There would be no government-shifting swing between left and right; merely a continuing "inclusive" administration that stuck close to popular priorities at all times. Blairite reformers had assumed that this would require proportional representation; maybe it doesn't. Maybe moderate Tories and Liberal Democrats are available already as cadet branches of the all-conquering new order.

Leave aside the inevitable hard choices, mistakes and enemies that any government makes. Is this not an impossible dream, simply because of the way modern societies work? Whether or not "left" and "right" are useful labels, all developed democracies have tended to evolve a system of binary politics, with periodic choices

between conservatives and progressives.

As WS Gilbert put it, "I often think it's comical / How Nature always does contrive / That every boy and every gal, / That's born in an even worse position this morning.



Andrew Marr

The scale of the Blair project is larger and presents a far more profound challenge than a complacent

Opposition

realises

into the world alive, / Is either a little Liberal, / Or else a little Conservative.

Gilbert was making what would be nowadays called a "pluralist" point, satirising the assumption, not applauding it. But it does seem that healthy societies require a constant tension between reformers, or changers, and conservatives, who tug the reins - and, so far, that has been played out through party politics. And the question the Blair project raises is this: can a "third way" administration, deftly mixing reform and conservatism, offer society both impulses? If the answer is yes, then the Tories could find themselves irrelevant for very many years to come. In the past, though, the answer has

always been no. Sometimes "third ways" have been covers for authoritarianism, as in the fascist "third way" of the Thirties, or the strongarm socialism of Tito's Yugoslavia; or they have seemed Utopian ("the third way" is a common environmentalist slogan); or they have been crushed between opposing social forces
-as the SDP was, in the conflict between Thatcherism and socialism. Like it or not, we have been living in a binary world.

There is another way of looking at British society today. though. Perhaps the "progres-sive" or reformist instinct does not derive from politics at all, but from science and business. The key challenges to the old order, whether in the politics of fertility, or censorship-destroying and capital-shifting information tech-nology, or in the shifts of wealth and employment caused by glob-

alism, are not coming from Westminster or from political radicals of any kind.

If that is so, then perhaps the role of politics will become essentially defensive and reactive - responding to the moral challenges in embryology, equipping citizens with flexible skills for the fast-changing economy; defending challenged public services; conserving as much of the remaining countryside and habitat as possible. Government becomes not a force to drive social change forward - there is plenty of that - but a conservative, moderating response to the changes roaring through

We have hardly begun to find new language to describe the Blair project. But that seems to me not a million miles away from what the Government is up to. If this analysis holds good then there is no particular reason to expect Labour in power to behave in a way that will set the pendulum swinging back: it will try to have an essentially reassuring, small-c con-servative effect on us. Isn't that the message

coming from most of Whitehall?

And though I may seem to have strayed a long way from the complacent student politics of much of the Conservative leadership contest, this is really what the Tories should be discussing. It is a much more profound and longterm political challenge to them than they seem to realise. The Government is quietly and determinedly redrawing the map of British polities. One of its intentions is to destroy the Conservative Party as a serious political force. Suddenly, that doesn't seem entirely impossible. though Labour will require further assistance from Tory MPs themselves. They were shattered on election night. Remarkably they are

# The big cowboy will be watching you

by Hamish McRae

ica, f schools Britain in common? The answer is that in all of them the

link between the producer and the consumer is changing from a simple sale towards a longerterm contractual relationship.

Cigarettes first: it looks as though an historic agreement will be reached between the tobacco companies and the US authorities which will give the companies a large element of immunity from being sued for damages by people whose health has been impaired by smoking, in return for a series of payments by the companies towards the health-care of such people. Fierce haggling has been going on over the details, but it is possible that by tomor-row an agreement will be passed to the White House for

approval.
The idea is a sensible one. Instead of the companies paying out an uncertain amount of money which would be distributed in a random way by the courts, it will give a known fig-ure which could then be allocated in an orderly manner.

The American media is presenting it as "tobacco giants to pay out billions", and in literal terms that is indeed what will happen. But this idea that the tobacco companies will be punished for their wickedness is naive. The money will not come out of thin air, In the short term there will be some loss to shareholders, but in the longer term the money will be paid by the people who continue to buy the cigarettes. So what is really happening is this: the present and future flow of smokers will pay more for their cigarettes to compensate (or at least help pay for the health-care costs of) people who smoked 20, 30 or more years ago. It is a transfer of funds between different gen-

erations of smokers. This inevitably brings the tobacco companies into a different relationship with their customers. There is an implicit bargain: pay more for cigarettes now and there will be funds to help look after you if you become ill later - though the funds will have to come from the next generation of smokers then, for like state pensions this is a pay-as-you-go plan,

not a funded one.

This bargain has further implications. The tobacco companies now have an interest in the health and general lifestyles of their customers. If their customers smoke only moderately, go to the gym every day, eat up their greens and generally lead blame-free lives, they will presumably be healthier in old age and therefore be less of a charge on the health-care authorities. As the marketing gurus would put it, the tobacco companies are not



## If a seller is taking on new obligations, it will want to be sure that a purchaser

just selling a product; they are entering into a relationship with their customers. Now think about schools. Until recently you went to school, passed or failed your exams and that was the end of it. Not any more. As my colleague Jack O'Sullivan reported last month, more and more parents (and former pupils) are suing their schools for the alleged shortcomings in the education they received. A ruling in 1995 in the House of Lords cleared the way for people to take schools to court and there is a rash of cases coming up. Whether this will become a sub-

stantial trend will depend on the

way the courts are seen to treat

such cases, and it may be tough

to prove that the reason some-

one failed his or her exams was

the result of poor teaching rather

than not doing the homework.

But you see the point: schools have to assume that they are not simply providing a service which begins and ends with the time the pupil is at the school. They too are entering into a relationship, for if former pupils fail in later life, they may end up taking part of the blame.

Indeed places of learning may find themselves involved even when the would-be student does not enter the portals. I was told yesterday by the head of an Oxford college that it had been threatened with legal action because it had illed to offer someone a place. In this case the person thought that the attempt to "buy" the service was enough to start a relationship, even though no transaction took place.

This idea that a sale is not a simple one-off thing is now being used as a marketing tool

start the manufacturer gets to know a lot more about the way the customer uses the product. It also cements the long-term relationship, making it more likely that the customer will come back for a replacement

The next obvious stage would

Many manufacturers are

eager to do this, and it has great

commercial attractions. For a

As technology advances, the machine will be able to contact the maker even without the owner needing to know. A microchip in a washing machine could tell when it needed more water-softener and get it delivered. Or, take this example told to me by an acquaintance in Japan about his elderly mother's high-technology loo. This now analyses her urine and sends that results back to her doctor over the telephone; if there is any abnormality her medication can be adjusted appropriately.

without her needing to travel to In all these cases - the ciga-rette, the education, the BMW the key point is that the purchase is not a one-off affair, but the start of a relationship. But relationships go both ways. If the seller is taking on an oblig-ation which goes beyond the actual sale, it will want to be sure that the purchaser is living

up to his or her obligations too. The tobacco company will, in theory at least, want to be sure that someone who claims that an illness was caused by smoking was not, say, a drug abuser too. The school will be able to require of its pupils proper attendance and attentive behaviour, for otherwise it will be released of its obligation to make sure that they learn properly. The manufacturer will, again in theory at least, know so much about how its product has been used that when you take your BMW back with a broken automatic gearbox, it will absolve itself from blame hecause the box will have radioed back that it was always being jammed into reverse when

Result: a world which heaps more obligations on producers of goods and services becomes world which will also place more obligations on purchasers of those goods and services. That means a more earnest. bossy and legalistic world. Do we really want that? It is easy to see why it is happening, but it does not sound a bundle of fun.

the car was still moving forward.

## is living up to his or her obligations too by manufacturers. Perhaps the

We conduct patient research into

best example is BMW. The

company boasts that a high per-

centage of its cars can be recy-

cled: that at the end of their

long lives they can be brought back, taken to pieces, the vari-

ous metals and plastics sorted,

and then used as raw materials

for another car. Also, perhaps

more than any other manufac-

turer, BMW has thought about

ways the car might "tell" the

manufacturer about its needs.

The cars already "tell" the dri-

ver - via coloured warning lights

-when they need to be serviced.

## Close the roads and traffic disappears

f you found the roads slightly less congested yesterday, it may have been because it was National Car-Free Day. Organised by the Environmental Transport Association, it was the first national attempt to get people out of their cars and onto other modes of transport. There were notable local successes with, for example, all but seven of 350 workers at Newcastle-upon-Tyne government offices foregoing their cars, and many train companies offering cheap rail

While such initiatives offer temporary relief, the search is on for more permanent solutions. The Road Traffic Reduction Act, passed in the dying days of the last government, requires local authorities to draw up plans to reduce traffic in their areas. The need for action has been recognised by Labour, which has set up a review of transport policy to be published as a White Paper in the spring with a heavy emphasis on "integrated transport".

Massive road-building pro-grammes have been ruled out as too expensive and environmentally unfriendly. But what about a much cheaper alternative, a massive road-closing programme? It seems so obvious. If you need traffic to be reduced, then the space

available for it should be cut. Traffic engineers have always argued that this would cause chaos and politicians balk at aggravating the motoring lobby. There is increasing evidence



Christian Wolmar

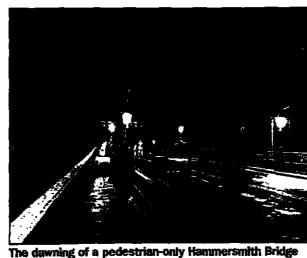
What about a massive road-closing programme? It seems so obvious. If you need traffic to be reduced, then the space available for it should be cut

that if you remove road space, some of the traffic just disap-pears. The first study into this phenomenon, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, is due to be completed in the autumn.

Three years ago, an obscure government committee called SACTRA made the front pages with the discovery that building new roads, rather than providing an alternative route for existing motorists, generates extra traffic. People who used to go by bus or train changed to cars. Others, who might have stayed at home, took to the roads because it was easier than before. Result: more traffic and more congestion.

This might have seemed an utterly banal discovery. After all, when the first sheep trail was transformed into a rough road, all the local Neanderthals must have flocked to it. However, the notion of this generated traffic was news to the Department of Transport. For reasons lost in the mists of time, the DoT's way of calculating the value of new roads was based on the belief they did not attract extra traffic. Once it was accepted that they did and that therefore they might not be worth building - the DoT had to recalculate its costbenefits analysis.

So what about the obvious corollary that if you take road space away, then traffic on adjoining roads will not necessarily increase commensurately? Examples abound. It



that was ever stimulated by the cent of work journeys and 20 and bomb scares in London, in no longer made. Others have 1993 the City Corporation threw up a ring of steel (well, plastic bollards actually) around much of the Square Mile to prevent through-traffic using the area.

Researchers reckon that since then, traffic in the restricted area has fallen by 40 per cent and air pollution by 15 per cent. They have come up with the bizarre statistic that daily "a line of traffic from Harrods to Cardiff has been taken out of the City".

More recently, closure of the crumbling Hammersmith Bridge has not resulted in the gridlock in west London that

IRA. After a series of bombs per cent of non-work trips are shifted to different modes, which means that a total of 29 per cent of the car journeys that used to go over the bridge are no longer taking place." The

bridge is still open to walkers and cyclists, encouraging many former motorists to switch to these methods of travel. Barnes, on the south side of the bridge, has become a village again, and residents, while annoyed that they can no longer go north very easily, are

happy with the closure.
There are other examples around the capital and in other cities, both in Britain and abroad. When space for pedeshad been predicted. Sally Carr, trians was extended at Buckis the only enlightened policy a researcher, said: "Five per ingham Palace, there was extra

congestion, but now it's back to its previous level and life is much better for walkers.

On Birmingham's inner ring road, reduction from three lanes to two lanes with much better facilities for pedestrians has not resulted in problems on adjoining roads. In Nuremberg, Germany, a 25-year "pedestrianisation" has squeezed nearly all traffic out of the town centre, but it still flows reasonably around the ring road.

Bus companies, such as London Transport, have a vested interest. They want more bus lanes but at present the lanes stop 20 metres short of traffic lights, delaying the buses. But if they were allowed to carry on up to the lights, while road space would be cut dramatically, buses would

become quicker than cars. The implications are revolutionary. If new studies confirm that road closures do not lead to chaos, then planners will have to change their tune. No longer will they be able to argue against pedestrianisation and other changes.

Rural areas beset by tourist traffic could also benefit. Councils in the Lake District are considering partially closing some roads but are worned about scaring off tourists. This research may allay their fears. After a century in which transport policy has been dominated by road-building, a policy of closing roads would be the biggest U-turn in transport history. But logic may suggest it is

the only sensible way ahead.



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# business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER Storm over Thames Water dividend

Warning of hösepipe bans as payout is increased by 22%

**Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent** 

The row over big dividend increases from the privatised water companies escalated yesterday after Thames Water an-nounced a 22 per cent hike in its payout to shareholders at the same time as the company, which has the highest leakage rates in the industry, unexpect-edly warned of possible

hosepipe bans. But Thames softened its opposition to the windfall tax, arguing that it could afford to pay a levy of £150m without having to cut back on investment. It was the first time a privatised utility had publicly named an "acceptable" figure for its windfall tax liability.

Thames was last night embroiled in another conflict with Ian Byatt, the water industry regulator. In his annual report. published yesterday, Mr Byatt again said he was concerned at unsustainable dividends. He said companies "should fulfil their investment programmes and that unjustifiably high dividend in-creases do not undermine that."

Bill Alexander, Thames managing director, said Mr Byatt had no responsibility to limit dividend payouts, despite his recent criticism. "The regulator can have a view on dividends but he's not required to regulate it. It's not within his remit. It would be crazy to have dividend controls on top. How profits are paid out certainly isn't part of

the regulatory regime at all." This is the second confrontation between Thames and Ofwar this year. The group refuse to voluntarily limit bill increases from April after failing

o meet hivesiment obligations. Welsh Mener, North West, North mobiles, Severn Trent, South West Southern York-shire backall complied with the

sinte angul complied with the request.

The 22 per cent dividend hike to 54 ap a share, was the highest middle year's water company reporting season, taking the total shareholder payout to 252 m. The company reported a 32 penetration in the international business to the property within the property of 1584m, while international busi-presses made profits of £2.8m, compared with losses of £38m

shares rose 6.5p, to 677.5p.
The company defended the dividend increase, arguing that a quarter was funded by international earnings, while the payout from the main regulated domestic business fell by 8 per cent. About half the dividend hike reflected the fact that Thames had bought back £225m worth of its shares last year.

the previous year. Thames

Thames was also forced to defend its leakage record as it warned it could have to impose its first hosepipe and sprinkler bans for opens, starting from next month. In April the comparry had stated it did not expect to impose water restrictions, but Mr Alexander said the policy may have to change because of "exceptionally" low rainfall. Reservoirs were 87 per cent full, but only by taking water from

"If we don't get substantial rain in the next month we'll have to ask people not to use sprinklers and hosepipes. The problem is we need rain," he said. Ironically the warning came during the wettest June in the capital for several years. Leakage rates had fallen



Facing critics: Sir Robert Clarke, Thames Water's chairman, can expect further confrontation with Ofwat as dividends soar Photograph: Brendan Corr

from a peak of 38 per cent in 1995-96 to about 28 per cent after the company began a £200m repair programme with 800 staff. Another measure is to move 100,000 households with high water demand onto meters

However, Thames again refused to adopt mandatory leak-age targets. Some other companies have already adopted such targets after the gov-ernment signalled its intention to make them compulsory in its recent "water summit." Mr Alexander said his company's voluntary target of 20 per cent leakage was "unprecedented"

for any capital city. "We have ex-tremely dry summers. Our pipes are in the same clay that cracks houses and it also cracks our

pipes...Why should I agree to mandatory targets? What happens if I agree to mandatory tar-

	Lenkage 1995-96	%	Leakage target 1997-98
	million libres per day)		(million litres per day)
\nglian .	236	20.1	211
Weish Water	413	37.9	· 54
Vorth West	789	33.5	705
Northumbrien	190	23.6	187
Severn Trent	632	28.7	410
South West	142	26.1	110
Southern	120	18.7	100
hames	1109	38.6	962
Nessex		30.6	124
orkshire	485	33.4	434

Customer groups attacked the British Telecom. "The tax should leakage rates, but said hosepipe bans were preferable to tougher restrictions on supply made lat-er. Andrew Milne from the Ofwat Thames region customer committee said: Thames Water must reduce its leakage rates."

The company's comments on the windfall tax will surprise other utilities. In a letter to the Treasury, published yesterday, it said it accepted the government's electoral mandate and of the tax." David Luffrum, finance director, said this meant spreading the bill over a wide

apply to all the privatised companies. BT have got competition around the margins but they're still a regulated company all the same. I wish I had their growth. In a surprise move he said Thames could afford to pay a

£150m tax bill, representing 3 per cent of a £5bn tax, which he argued should be based on company profits in the five years after privatisation.
"The balance sheet will take was ready to pay a "fair share another £150m in debt. I'm

answering the question 'would that force Thames to reduce our spreading the bill over a wide number of utilities, including the answer is probably not."

## British Gas faces price curbs

Michael Harrison and Chris Godsmark

British Gas is today bracing itself for a tough price clampdown as the Government publishes the long-awaited Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the charges its pipeline division

the charges its pipeline division
TransCo is allowed to levy.

Unions were last night called
to a meeting at BG's headquarters to be briefed on the
outcome of the MMC investigation, which was prompted after the company rejected price
cuts worth £28 a year for domeetic customers proposed by mestic customers proposed by the industry regulator Clare Spottiswoode.

BG has warned that the reduction in revenues set out under the new price formula could mean 10,000 job losses from TransCo's 20,000 strong work-force and cut its cash flow by £400m a year.

Details of the MMC's findings

have been kept under tight wraps since its report was delivered to BG and Ofgas a fortnight ago. But the MMC is thought to have broadly backed the regulator's approach in a move which City analysts believe could still result in a reduction in bills of close to £20.

BG described Ms Spottis

woode's original proposals as the biggest smash and grab raid" in corporate history and "seizure of shareholders' funds on an unprecedented scale". The company has been in dispute with Ofgas over the value of the assets on which it can earn a return, the amount of depreciation it can charge and the amount of operating ex-

penditure it should be allowed. Separately yesterday it emerged that the next trial of domestic gas competition, involv-ing 2 million homes in Scotland and the North East of England, is likely to be pushed back from October to mid-November: Ms-Spottiswoode will meet independent gas suppliers in the Ofgas Domestic Competition Focus Group on Monday to tell computer systems in time to

Ian Lang, the former Presi-dent of the Board of Trade, had announced the October plan shortly before the election, moving the original target date for-ward from 1998. John Battle, the new industry minister, has told Ofgas he wants to stick to the October timetable but is prepared to accept a short delay to avoid damaging customer ser-vice. The regulator has apparently accepted Transco's argument, given the short time remaining for industry-wide consultation.

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meet the original timetable.

## **'£1.8bn liability'** means Tube could not be sold

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

London Underground is a "£1.8bn liability" that can cannot be sold as a single entity. according to senior government officials, despite announcing record "operating" profits this year.

Although Tube managers will announce on Thursday that gross operating margins for this year will exceed £210m-an improvement of more than train operating companies. £18m over the previous year civil servants say this is a "sleight of hand" which disguises the system's true losses.

Officials point out that the capital spending every year costs at least £330m to replace equipment as it wears out - leaving the Tube heavily reliant on government grants. The system is also badly in need of invest-ment and faces a bill for a backlog of repairs that tops £1.25bn.

Although selling a majority stake in the Tube to the private sector remains an option for the Government, officials doubt whether there would be any takers for the ailing service unless subsidies were dramatically increased.

The most likely option for the Underground remains a British Rail-style split-up and sale. This would be vigorously opposed by Labour traditionalists who point out that present ministers sector.

attacked similar Conservative proposals for the nation's rail network when they sat on the Opposition benches

Privately many officials concede that this would be a costly exercise. They point out that there is little room to increase revenue without raising the price of tickets, as London Transport already carries 85 per cent of commuters into London. This ability to increase sales quickly was key to the private sector tendering for BR's

"For the private sector to make a decent return and run pay companies at least £175m a year for 15 years to make money," said one civil servant.

Little is expected to happen before 1999. This leaves the Underground facing a financial disaster, unless Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, injects more cash into the system this July it will be forced to prune its spending on essential station and sig-

nalling work. If the Chancellor sticks by the Tory's spending plans for the Tube, the system will see its funding cut from more than £600m this year to £150m in 1999-2000.

Peter Ford, chairman of London Transport, said the system should not be privatised until ministers were sure it will get a better deal than in the public

## Government borrowing figure shrinks

Government borrowing is shrinking, according to figures published yesterday. News of the favourable trend comes ahead of tomorrow's report from the National Audit Office which is likely to claim that the outlook for the public finances published in last November's Budget was too optimistic.

The report is expected to prepare the ground for additional iax rises in the Budget on 2 July. Fears that companies will have to shoulder the higher tax burden because of Labour's manifesto pledges on income tax

Sameena Ahmad

BAT and fellow eigarette com-panies in the US last night

looked close to reaching a land-

mark settlement to resolve hun-

dreds of lawsuits, which

together could be worth

\$300bn, filed by smokers and

state governments seeking to re-

coup healthcare costs. Accord-

ing to reports in the Washington

Post, sources close to the talks

have revealed that most of the

major issues have been re-

solved and an agreement could

be announced this week. Chris-tine Gregoire, Washington's at-

torney general said yesterday:

This comprehensive plan is

coming together. I remain cau-

tiously optimistic that we'll get it done." Henry Waxman, a US

helped push share prices low- son for casting doubt on this is the current spending plans, tax credit on dividends for tax-

The FTSE 100 index ended nearly 63 points lower at 4,682.2, its second successive fall. An opening decline in shares on Wall Street following buoyant figures for US industrial output also contributed, although the Dow Jones index later climbed above 7.800.

The Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) was higger than expected at just under £4bn in May, but its total in the first

two months this financial year was only £4bn compared to £6.2bn at the same stage last year. "The public finances are im-

proving rapidly. The only rea-

Republican opposed to the to-

bacco industry and in contact with White House chiefs, said

vesterday that a breakthrough

in the talks looked imminent.

Reports say that in preparation

for the announcement, nego-

tiators have launched a cam-

paign to woo public health

groups, lawyers, the White

A BAT spokesman in Lon-don said he was not aware of

any development in settlement

talks while a representative of

BAT's US tohacco arm Brown

& Williamson refused to com-ment on the negotiations. Roy Burry of US broker Oppen-

heimer said that any agree-

ment would touch on virtually

every aspect of the industry

House and the news media.

BAT close to settling lawsuits

on government spending," said Kevin Gardiner, UK economist at investment bank Morgan Stanley

Yesterday's figures showed that tax revenues are 4.5 per cent higher than at the same stage of the previous year, with VAT and income tax especially buoyant. More importantly, departmental spending is 3 per cent lower than in the first two months of 1996/97. Even adjusting for items like the sale of the MoD married quarters, un-

derlying expenditure is flat. With all the signs that it will be increasingly hard to stick to

tised and marketed to the lev-

el of nicotine used and the

price of each pack. Wayne Ger-

ry, tobacco analyst at Kleinwort

Benson said that the timing of

settlement was uncertain: "We

are all sitting here waiting. When it is announced the full

ramifications will take most

people a week or so to digest. Hell, just look at the logistics".

the talks say that several mat-

ters have already been settled.

Cigarette makers could be

asked to pay \$10bn in cash up-

front, with around 70 per cent

going to individual states to pay

for medical costs to treat sick

smokers. The eigarctle compa-nies are then expected to make

Though there are many issues a cent still unresolved, those close to claims.

the NAO report will be a prelude to modest tax increases on top of the windfall levy in next nonth's Budget.

The report could find a hole of several billion pounds in the plans inherited from Kenneth Clarke. It is expected to challenge the assumptions made last Budget about the economy's potential growth rate, forecast falls in unemployment and the possible savings from cracking down on tax and benefit fraud.

Yesterday's fall in share prices partly reflected fears the Chancellor will raise up to £5hn a year

year in perpetuity. On top the US tobacco industry might have

to pay \$1.5bn for a campaign

aimed at dissuading smoking. In

addition, individual lawsuits

are expected to be permitted

with the total awards to suc-

cessful plaintiffs capped at per-

haps \$4bn a year. Analysis point out that in 40 years of law-

suits, the industry has not paid

Other issues which may have

been settled include an agree-

ment to ban smoking in public

buildings except for bars,

restaurants, casinos and prisons

and there would be bans on to-

bacco advertising on billboards

and on sponsorship of sporting

events and a han on cartoon

a cent for a health-related

terday's move on Wall Street. where the Dow Jones index was

It was also a reaction to yes-

more than 51 points lower at 7718.71 shortly after opening. The impact of figures showing bigger-than-expected jump in industrial output in May outweighed others showing Manufacturing production

jumped 0.4 per cent during the month. It was the tenth consecutive monthly increase after April's figure was revised up. Meanwhile headline inflation declined to 2.2 per cent from 2.5 per cent in April.

## Mirror in talks with Midland newspaper group

**Cathy Newman** 

Mirror Group announced yesterday that it is in talks with Midland Independent Newspapers, owner of the Birmingham Post, about a possible bid for the company. The news came after months

of speculation that the two companies were in discussions. Market observers said yesterday that Mirror and MIN had been in talks "on and off" for around eight months. Neither David Montgomery, thief executive of Mirror, nor Chris Oakley, chief executive of MIN, would comment last night. MIN's shares soured 30p to 179p yesterday, up from a 12-month low of 108p last summer.

Dealers said the announcement was sparked by renewed rumours in the market, However, it is thought the deal will not be finalised immediately, and talks are progressing at a "fairly leisurely" rate.

Mirror, which owns a 46 per cent stake in Newspaper Publishing, publishers of The Independent and Independent on Sunday, already co-operates with MIN on a cable television venture, Birmingham Live. Executives at both companies have previously said that these existing business links may have started rumours of a deal, Analysts speculated that,

judging by the prices offered for other regional newspaper groups, MIN may go for around

£180m. Some commentators also believed that if Mirror clinched the deal it would sell a number of titles in order to focus on MIN's Birmingham and Coventry strongholds. A range of groups, including John-ston Press and Midland News Association, may be interested in any titles offloaded.

One analyst said Mirror

could expand further into the regional newspaper sector if it was successful in its bid for MIN. He said: "If Mirror get it, I'd see it as a stepping stone to acquiring other regional newspaper groups." Mirror bid in conjunction with Independent Newspapers for Pearson's Westminster Press titles last year, but lost out to Newsquest Media

MIN has been repeatedly named as a bid target as consolidation in the regional newspaper industry gathered pace.



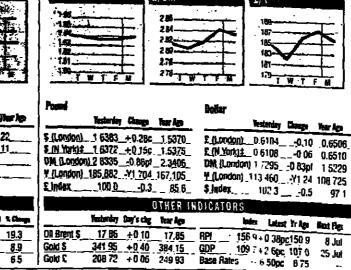
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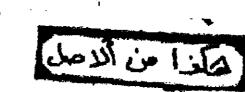
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<u>Hong Kang</u>

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## What does Chisholm's going mean for BSkyB?

Co To err is human, but forgiveness is not my policy." That's the saying Sam Chisholm is reputed to have had posted on his desk at BSkyB, and it helped establish his reputation as a bruiser and leading exponent of the head-banging, gorilla school of man-agement. This is the type that takes positive pleasure in saying "you're fired". In Mr Chisholm's case, he exercised this ultimate man management weapon with ruthless

abandon. The question is whether he has just fallen victim to his own medicine, or whether it is genuinely illness which is driving him into early retirement. One of the lessons certainly seems to be

that though there may be room for a few dependent fieldoms within the Murdoch empire, ultimately there is only one emperor. Mr Chisholm has been attempting to take more of the credit for BSkyB's staggering success than the boss of bosses would have felt comfortable with. There has been friction between the two over the past year and Mr Chisholm has made apparently deliberate attempts to distance himself from his 40 per cent shareholder. Nothing would annoy Mr Chisholm more than to have his company constantly referred to in the press as "Mr Murdoch's BSkvB".

Whether it is just asthma, or as most people in the City suspect, a rather more serious respiratory disease that Mr Chisholm suffers from, nobody expected his departure quite so soon and certainly nobody expected

him. The timing looks odd for another reason too, for it comes on the eve of the ITC's go, this takes some beating. Yesterday decision on digital terrestrial.

But then Rupert Murdoch is in town and when that happens he rarely departs without a few more executive scalps to add to the collection. This time it was Mr Chisholm, who would not have gone willingly, ill or not ill. At this stage it is hard to know what the demise of the old buccaneer will mean for the pirate ship. The stock market's view yes-terday was that it must be bad news, if only because it seems to be Mr Murdoch reestablishing control and probably hastens the nepotistic elevation of his daughter, Elisabeth, into the hot seat. The new chief executive is a complete unknown in the London

Furthermore, whatever you might think of Mr Chisholm - and there are plenty of unprintable thoughts out there - it is cer-tainly true that he was responsible for much of the drive and vision behind Sky's recent success. With competitors and regulators closing in on all sides, his going might in the fullness of time come to be seen as marking the high point in the company's extra-

A few years ago one of the country's biggest brewers hired a new head of public relations. On his first day in the job he was told to make two announcements. The first was that the company was watering down his anointed heir, David Chance, to go with its beer and the second was that it was inThames Water matched and bettered it.

What business other than a public utility could announce a 19 per cent increase in profits and a 22 per cent increase in dividends on the same day as warning its customers that they face a summer of hosepipe bans?

In fairness to Thames, there are a number of mitigating factors. It has not had a hosepipe ban for six years, it is spending an extra £200m to reduce its appalling leakage rate and the amount of water it can extract from rivers is controlled by the Environment

That said, Thames' handling of its results must go down as one of the more crass pieces of public relations mismanagement. In the present febrile atmosphere, with a windfall tax around the corner and every public utility fair game for retribution, the company could not have expected anything less than the howls of outrage yesterday's double whammy produced.

The vast bulk of the dividend continues

to be financed by monopoly profits. Pointing out that the distribution is higher per share because Thames bought back 10 per cent of its capital last year merely serves as an irritating reminder that shareholders had already benefited to the tune of £226m even before yesterday's top up.

More seriously, Thames has misjudged or mismanaged the regulatory risk it faces. Ian Byatt was on record again yesterday criti-

cising "unjustifiably high" dividend on board. When the tax credit's effective rate was reduced from 25 per cent to 20 per cent company to have ignored a request from Ofwat to cut its bills this year in recognition of previous under-investment.

The good news for shareholders is that the balance sheet can easily support dividends of this size. The bad news is that it is also robust enough to pay a windfall tax of £150m, as the finance director has now blurted out. At this rate Gordon Brown may decide to take that merely as a starting point.

The market managed to shrug off on Mon-day the apparently well-informed story that pension funds are to lose their coveted tax credit perk in next month's budget. By yesterday, however, the brave face showed signs of cracking as the FTSE100 tumbled 63 points. We told you so, gloated the gloom-mongers who reckon the elimination of ACT is worth a good 10 per cent off the

In fact this view is a rather paive one, assuming as it does that none of the ACT hit is already in the market and believing that the actuarial shortfall will be wholly made up by lower share prices and consequently nigher dividend yields. But it would be wrong of the market to dismiss the threat completely - it is plainly more concrete than a few days ago and comes on top of a growing list of other reasons to be nervous.

In purely arithmetical terms the market has probably not taken the whole ACT issue

four years ago, the market fell by 2 per cent. Even if you don't buy the most pessimistic view of total abolition, it would still be rea-sonable to assume a slide of at least five per cent, which would imply a 250 point fall.

The main worry for the market, however, is to be found in labour market data. Falling unemployment, a rapid increase in job creation and service sector earnings coming to the boil suggest the demise of wage inflation has been exaggerated. The IT sector is noto-riously tight, but Logica's profits warning last week is a worrying sign of rising costs.

It is hard to see a combination of higher wage bills and £30bn of windfalls not leading to higher prices on the high street and therefore higher interest rates. An 8 per cent base rate is beginning to look increasingly plausible. It is not all gloom. Institutional liquidity

is still strong and despite the media focus on an expected consumer binge after this summer's windfalls, many of the handouts will be saved. It is also possible to argue that the UK market is cheaper on several measures than its counterparts in the US and continental Europe, especially its smaller constituents whose poor showing this year has been disguised by the boom in banks and pharmaceuticals stocks that dominate the increasingly unrepresentative FTSE100. Even so, it is difficult to raise much enthusiasm for shares at this level.

## Departure of top two knocks BSkyB shares

Cathy Newman

Shares in BSkyB fell sharply yesterday after the announcement that Sam Chisholm, chief executive, and David Chance, deputy managing director, were to leave the company at the end of the year. The news that Mr Chisholm, who is 57, was to step down on the advice of his doctor knocked 22p off BSkyB's share price, dragging it down to

City analysis were nervous about Mr Chisholm's replacement, Mark Booth, who is currently chief operating officer of JSkyB, Rupert Murdoch's Japanese satellite operation. Mr Booth, who is 40, has been in his current position for less than six months. One analyst aid: "Mark Booth has nowhere near the skills or reputation of

a Sam Chisholm." Another worried that Booth would be beholden to Rupert Murdoch, chairman of News Corporation, rather than the BSkyB shareholders. The analyst added: "This is a clear but subtle indication that Murdoch is seizing back managerial con-trol of BSkyB. Sam Chisholm is responsible for the BSkyB share

price. It is not immediately evident how Murdoch's track record in ruthlessly expanding his TV interests returns value to the shareholders in the medi-

The changes leave the way clear for Elisabeth Murdoch, Mr Murdoch's 28-year-old daughter, to rise up the ranks of the satellite television operator. Speculation is mounting that she will take Mr Chance's role in January next year.

I he iming of the announcement puzzled many in the industry, coming as it did only weeks before the Independent Television Commission's decision on the digital terrestrial television licences. BSkyB, in conjunction with Carlton Communications and Granada Group, has bid for the chance to control digital terrestrial

Mathew Horsman, media analyst at Henderson Crosthwaite, said: "This is the end of an era in British broadcasting. It's a bit of a double whammy for Sky to lose the chief executive and his deputy on the eve of the digital revolution." Another analyst, who declined to be named, commented: "This

will have a dramatic impact. Sam Chisholm has been a clear driving force. Sky is going through a demanding period in the nun-up and transition from analogue to digital. The company needs someone who has that absolute conviction."

But Derek Terrington, media analyst at Teather & Greenwood, said departures were fairly common in Murdoch's empire. He added: "Any multiple departure has to be a bit News Corp are not unusual. Mr Terrington was less bothered than most about Mr Booth's appointment, saying he had confidence in Mr Murdoch's decisions on personnel.

Mr Chance, who joined BSkyB eight years ago, said that even though he has often been viewed as Mr Chisholm's heir pparent, he declined to be considered for the role. He added that Mr Chisholm will remain a director of the company and Mr Chance is to continue as a

Mr Chance emphasised that he would be helping BSkyB switch from analogue to digital, and denied that the news would unduly destabilise the compa-



Sam Chisholm: Stepping down on his doctor's advice

Meanwhile, he paid tribute to the chief executive's work at the company. "Sam has been instrumental in Sky's success story. He inherited a company losing £14m a week at the time of the merger of Sky and BSB. It now has operating profit in excess of £300m." he said.

ny. He said: "Sky's future is the industry for some while tremendously exciting with the launch of the digital initiative." that Mr Chisholm suffers from asthma, and would be forced to take a back-seat role sooner or

Sources say that Mr Murdoch came to London last week, and finalised the terms of Mr Chisholm's departure. However, Mr Chisholm is thought to have started discussions to negotiate his way out of his con-It has been an open secret in tract some months ago.

## Regan hearing adjourned until July

A court hearing of the Co-operative Wholesale Society's private prosecution against Andrew Regan, which was due to take place today, has been adjourned to give lawyers more time to get their papers together. The hearing was adjourned by mutual agreement until 3 July. It will heard in the City of London Magistrates Court as planned previously.

Lawyers representing Mr Regan, whose £1.2bn break-up bid for the Co-op failed in April, said nothing should be read into the adjournment. "It was thought it would be more convenient for of Burton Copeland. "It is a perfectly normal procedure."

was also adjourned to give Mr Regan's legal team more time to orepare their case.

The case against Mr Regan and his business partner David Lyons, is for allegedly "aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring" the theft and for handling stolen property."
Both Mr Regan and Mr Lyons

have said they will defend the charges "vigorously." At the initial hearing last

month, Allan Green, the Co-op's former head of retailing, was the only one of the three defendants to attend the court. All three had been due to attend today.

## LVMH chief takes stake in GrandMet

Andrew Yates

Bernard Arnault, the combative chief executive of the French champagne-to-luxury luggage group LVMH, increased the pressure on the £23bn Guinness-Grand Metropolitan merger yesterday when he paid £27.4m for a 0.23 per cent stake in GrandMet.

It is Mr Arnault's latest move in an attempt to derail the proposed deal.

He has agreed not to increase his 14 per cent in Guinness after recently selling a 7 per cent stake in the group.

GrandMet he hopes to strengthen his bargaining power in an attempt to force Grand-Met and Guinness to consider a proposal to merge their spirits divisions with LVMH's drinks subsidiary Moët Hen-

"If he takes a stake in Grand-Met he can cause a fuss and lobby for a merger of all three companies spirits divisions," said one analyst. Others see this as a classic tac-

tic from the outspoken Frenchman designed to make a profit for his shareholders. "Arnault is trying to put the

wind up people and hedge his bets at the same time. If he

merger goes through he will at least hold a stake in GrandMet which should be worth more. There could be definite upside from this deal," says another industry source. Either way it is thought likely that LVMH may seek to buy more shares in the Mr Arnault's ominous move

is the latest shot in an increasingly bitter war between LVMH and Guinness. They are embroiled in a legal battle over control of Moet Hennessy. Last week LVMH confirmed its plans to call in arbitrators over its claims that the proposed Guinness' 34 per cent stake in Moet Hennessey which has been valued by analysts at around £1bn.

If LVMH wins the case it could effectively scupper any merger plans. LVMH claims any merger will trigger a change of ownership clause. At stake would also be the exclusive rights to distribute Guinness's leading spirits brands such as Johnnie Walker in the US and the Far East for the next ten

These contracts alone are worth upwards of £200m a year to Guinness. And GrandMet would be unable to sell its vodka and tequila brands through Guinness, one of the main readoesn't get his way and the

### IN BRIEF

## Consumers want to keep electrical RRPs

Three out of four consumers do not want the Government to end the use of recommended retail prices when shopping around the use of recommended retail prices when shopping around televisions and hi-fi equipment, according to a Mori poli for the electrical manufacturers association Breama. The Monopolies & Mergers Commission is poised to call for the abolition of RRPs in a move which could open the way to greater price competi-tion on the high street. But, according to Mori, 68 per cent of consumers do not want RRPs discontinued, 83 per cent expect to see RRPs advertised in shops and seven in 10 feel they are a good guide for comparing the prices of different models.

### Brown urged to boost African education

Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is urged today to use this week's meeting of world leaders in Denver to launch a new initiative to boost education in Africa. In a new report, Oxfam said the Labour Government should take the opportunity to apply its top priority in the field of international development as well as at home. The charity will be drawing an detailed. as well as at home. The charity will be drawing up detailed proposals to present to the Chancellor in time for him to put an edpossus to present to the Chancellor in time for him to put an education drive for Africa on the agenda for next year's G7 summit, to be hosted by the UK in Birmingham. It will recommend redirecting Britain's aid budget into primary education.

## Allied Domecq agrees venture in Delhi

Allied Domeca, the pubs and drinks group, is forming a joint venture with Clan Morgan & Co of Delhi to further develop its presture with Clan Morgan ence in the Indian spirits market. The new company, Allied Domecq Spirits & Wine (India), will build a £3.5m plant in Rajasthan to bottle Teacher's Whisky. Teacher's is brand leader and holds 25 new cent of the 70 000 and Santahan to bottle. holds 35 per cent of the 70,000 case Scotch market in India. Allied Domecq managing director Brian Senior said India was a growth market where foreign investment was increasing. The comple. Allied Domecq entered the Indian market in 1994.

## Bakyrchik Gold shares suspended

Shares in Bakyrchik Gold have been temporarily suspended as onares in Bakyrchik Goid have been temporarily suspended as the company seeks to secure additional funding. Bakyrchik said it is in discussions which, if successful, will result in the company procuring additional short-term financing. If agreement is procuring additional short-term financing. If agreement is procuring additional short-term financing. my procuring admironal short-term maneing, it agreement is reached this is likely to result in Bakyrchik putting to its share-holders a proposal for the restructuring of its ownership of the

## Second cash call for Mackie

Mackie International, the troubled Belfast-based textile machinery group, has unveiled its second cash call in less than 12 months and a restated loss of £7.2m for last year. The group is raising and a restated loss of £1.2m for last year. The group is raising 65.25m in a five for two rescue rights issue at 20p a share to stave off the group's bankers and is also forecasting a further loss of £4m for the six months to the end of June. The group's shares were suspended at 113.5p in April pending a review of the busi-were suspended at 113.5p in April pending a review of the busi-ness; which has led to a wholesale clear-out of the board and the installation of new chief executive Sul Sahota.

## Banking retreat pulls down share market

inancial Editor

Abbey National led a ragged re-treat by the previously high-flying banking sector yesterday after NatWest's profits warning on Monday pricked the specu-lative bubble that had buoyed the former building society's shares. NatWest is understood to have approached Abbey with merger proposals but analysts believe lower profits and the loss of the head of its investment banking division this week make

bid less likely. The 37p fall in Abbey's shares to 831p means it has fallen from a high of 961p in only a few weeks. The fall was matched by a 20p slide in Lloyds TSB's shares to 606.5p and a further 5p fall from NatWest to

745_5p after Monday's collapse. Tumbling bank shares were a major influence on the 63-point

fall in the FTSE 100 index of

leading shares, which financial with Lehman Brothers' Robert stocks now dominate.
"Hopes for a bid from

NatWest are down the pan," one dealer said. "We decided some time ago Abbey had got too high and the stock is boiling over. The whole sector has come a bit easier and it's probably no surprise that the more speculative stocks have been hit more than most." Analysts continued to take

their red pens to profit forecasts for Nat West yesterday following Monday's announcement that a slump in returns from NatWest Markets, its investment banking arm, would peg group profits back to £770m in the six months to June. The inability of NatWest Markets to generate a decent return on cap-ital claimed its first senior scalp this week when Martin Owen, its chief executive, was ousted.

Law suggesting even the most radical action might not transform the bank's outlook. "Nat West looks set for a long

haul," he said. "It is difficult to escape the conclusion that NatWest has no obviously sizeable businesses with attractive profitability, market share or competitive advantage."
He cut his 1997 profit fore-

cast by 13 per cent to £1.75bn and expects next year's profits to be only £2bn compared to a previous estimate of £2.3bn. Pressure is mounting on Derek Wanless, NatWest's

group chief executive, to give the market proof that investment banking can pay its way. One broker said: "They have to be clearer on strategy."

Speculation was growing yes-terday that NatWest's derivatives trading operation would be an early victim of the company's Brokers were sceptical about the bank's near-term prospects, focus on its profitable activities.

## Philips and Lucent merge

David Usborne

Philips Electronics of the

Netherlands and Lucent Technologies of the United States announced yesterday the merger of their telecommunications consumer products divisions to create a goliath with annual sales of \$2.5bn.

Both Philips and Lucent Technologies, which was spun off from AT&T last year, are the leaders in their own markets in equipment such as telephones and answering machines. The new company, to be called Philips Consumer Com-

sell cellular telephones, pagers and related communications products. Both sides hope to conclude the deal by 1 October. While the new company is to

be based in New Jersey, close to the headquarters of Lucent, it will be 60 per cent owned by Philips and 40 per cent by Lucent. Officials said the ownership structure directly reflected the respective sales revenue of the partner companies. In Europe, Philips has a \$1.4bn business in selling the

munications, will develop and ficials said talks on a possible merger between the divisions began about three months ago. They said the main purpose was to provide the muscle for expansion into world markets, including Japan and Latin America.

There are many markets in Latin America and Asia where we can offer those products in a short period of time," said Michael McTighe, managing director of Philips' telecom products division. Of the Japanese market, he said: "Next year we will attack there."

products. Lucent's revenue on the same products from the US The news of the union was market comes out at \$1.1bn. Ofwarmly greeted on Wall Street. What the papers don't say. What the radio doesn't let you hear. What the other broadcasters don't let vou see. Get the complete picture Full, unedited coverage of both Houses in session and incisive political programming.

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## Eurotherm chief is feeling the heat

executive, Claes Hultman, resigned after a messy battle with fellow directors, only to be reinstated weeks later by admiring institutional investors. The débacle was followed by a boardroom bloodbath, with Mr Hultman's detractors, including founder and chairman Jack Leonard, being forced out.

But Mr Hultman is going to have to work hard to repay the institutions' faith in him. Since he regained control, Eurotherm's share price has fallen by a third to 376p, down 6.5p yesterday, and underperformed the stock market by 44 per cent. Its interim results did little to lift the gloom. Profits fell by over a fifth to £14.7m.

To be fair, Mr Hultman is not to blame. Underlying profits were flat but Eurotherm was clobbered by the rise in the value of the pound, which wiped £4m off the bottom line. Strong sterling creates two problems for Eurotherm.

First, it sells almost half of its UK products, including temperature con-trol equipment, drives which regulate nine, behind giants such as the Post Ofmotor speeds and gauging equipment. to domestically based exporters. But a rising pound has hit these customers hard and Eurotherm's domestic sales have been blighted. It has reacted by pioneering products which have, on the hole, been successful. But it is having to work hard to stand still.

Second, foreign producers are now much more cost competitive. Central European manufacturers especially have flooded Eurotherm's main markets with cheap imports. Poor demand on the Continent, induced by faltering economies in France and Germany, has added to its woes.

Pressure on margins is intense. Eurotherm's operating margin fell by more than two percentage points to 14 per cent. It would have dropped more but for the fact that it has decided not to slash prices to win custom, though this has had an adverse effect on sales which slipped nearly 3 per cent. Mr Hultman summed up the situation by saying: "We have a horrific situation with currencies."

One solution is to expand its businesses in North America and the Far East. But most sales over there are done through distributors and Eurotherm admits it does not stock enough products to win contracts with middlemen. To get them it will have to expand its product range by making more acquisitions. With £28m in the bank it can afford to do so, but penetrating these markets could prove to be a lengthy process.

Broker Henderson Crosthwaite has downgraded current year forecasts from £34m to £29.5m, putting the shares on a prospective p/e ratio of 17. Eurotherm could make an attractive bid

## Electronic parts manufacturer Eurotherm grabbed the head-lines last summer when the chief THE INVESTMENT COLUMN attack the big but fragmented City of London market, while "super region-lines last summer when the chief

EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

target but Mr Hultman denies he has received a telephone call from anyone. ly respectable, given the increasing size of the group. Earnings per share ex-Eurotherm is also considering returning cash to shareholders or launching a share buy back. Even so, the shares are best avoided.

### **Business Post** delivers the goods

Business Post has been an unlikely success story since it floated at 120p nearly four years ago. The company is still a minnow in the fiercely competitive UK market for express delivered parcels and packets.

Its 3 per cent market share, built up using a unique franchise and regional fice's Parcelforce operation, Securicor and TNT. But the shares' 128 per cent outperformance since launch speaks for itself, even if they were down 5p at 478p on a bad day for the market yesterday. Even though profits growth has steadily slowed over the past few years. a 24 per cent increase to £16.1m in the

latest 12 months to March is still high-

panded by 21 per cent to 21p.

The company is demonstrating its confidence in its own financial strength by using close to half its £9.8m cash pile to pay a special dividend of 9.1p a share. Together with the second interior of 6.9p, this will be paid on 1 July to beat any move by the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, to scrap or reduce advance corporation tax.

The group denies any pressure to pay from founding brothers Peter and Michael Kane, both of whom have relinguished executive duties at the group over the past 18 months, but the special payment means the exiled pair will scoop a £7m windfall from divi-dends this year.

Certainly, there seems little reason to doubt the management's claim that the group can pay the dividend and meet its capital expenditure requirements over the next few years. All of last year's tripled capital expenditure at £7.5m was easily covered by operating cash flow of £14.5m, which augurs well for the current year's budget of £7.8m.

The new regional hub in London's Docklands will allow Business Post to

From Time

UK's Leading PC Supplier
Tractorium van ben middele in on
of the IX share; PC Legues to rue 10
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Trading record	1994	1995 Full Year	1996	1996 Hall	1997 Year
ABGROVET (Em)	168	195	207	102.2	99.5
Pre-tax profits (£m)	26.1	34.1	37.7	18.7	14.7
arnings per share (p)	19.4	25.1	27.6	13.4	10.8
Dividends per stare (p)	5.50	7.50	9.0	4,0	42
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**Eurotherm: At a glance** 

Market value: £342m, share price 376p

al" hubs in Runcom later this year and in north London by 1999 will complete its network. But the real boost should come from the £7.1m national hub due on-stream in Birmingham, which will cut costs and increase capacity by be-

tween 100 and 400 per cent. Profits of £19.3m this year would put the shares on a forward p/e of 19, making them a firm hold.

### Carpetright sales bounce back

ord Harris of Peckham was working hard yesterday to restore confidence in Carpetright, the carpet retail group which he chairs. He had his work cut out, having sold a quarter of his holding in the business at 569p just months before the shares slid to a 435.5p low on fears it was over-

expanding in a sticky market.
But full-year figures and upbeat comments on current trading helped, pushing the shares 37.5p higher to 478.5p yesterday.

Encouraging was Lord Harris's instence that, far from a trading battle, there was plenty of room in the carpet market for more stores. With more than 70 per cent of the UK carpet market still in the hands of the independents and only one other big competitor - Allied Carpets - Carpetright has scope to increase its mar-ket share from the current 17 per cent. Sales for the year to April rose 10 per cent on a like-for-like basis in a

market growing at around half that rate. Moreover, Lord Harris reckons that even if the group's like-for-like sales growth slowed to 4 per cent for the next three years, as it has over the past seven weeks, the group will still hit its target of 30 per cent market share by 2000 and maintain margins.

As it is, most of the recent slowdown has been due to a dip in consumer confidence before the election and there are signs of a recent bounce in sales

growth, which should be maintained by the housing market recovery.

That could mean higher margins over the next few years. What will also help are signs that the group is abandoning its cut-throat discounting policy for some page scale or signs. icy for more sensible pricing.

Gross margins in the period lifted

a healthy 3.4 percentage points to 49

NatWest is looking for profits of around £41m for the current year. On a forward p/e ratio of 14, the shares are cheap compared to the loftier valua-tion applied to Allied, but that is prob-ably a fair valuation.

## Hazlewood to focus on own-brand foods

Magnus Grimond

Hazlewood Foods is moving onto the growth tack with plans to beef up investment in expanding markets from sandwiches to year-round strawberries following the £45m sale of its potato processing activities

announced yesterday.
The Fri d'Or businesses in Holland and the Czech Republic are being sold to Danisco, a Danish food company, after Hazlewood decided they did not fit with plans to devel-op "value-added" sectors of the business. The shares added 5.5p to 116.5p.
John Simons, Hazlewood's

chief executive, said the sale largely completes what has been a five-year refocusing programme. Over that period, we have got out of a lot of businesses where we didn't have critical mass, like orange juice, confectionery and shellfish." He said Hazlewood would "concentrate very much on growth markets, where the retailer's brand is a very strong player".

These markets be defined as convenience foods, delicatessen products such as quality meats and snack foods, and glasshouse horticulture. Hazlewood, which has no brands of its own, is already the biggest supplier of own-brand foods from sandwiches and recipe sauces to growing herbs for retailers such as Asda, Safeway, J Sainsbury, Tesco and Somerfield, which together account for half the

group's turnover. The sandwich market alone is growing at 12 per cent a year. while the group has just started supplying strawberries and raspberries grown all year round under glass to compete with fruit air-freighted in from abroad. Hazlewood is also developing a chilled food operation on the Continent based on the recent acquisition of a small Dutch manufacturer.

Some of the proceeds from yesterday's sale will be used for quick ratchet payback" investments, such as increased automation to add features to products. In the short run, the

money will slash gearing, which was around 130 per cent five years ago, by nearly half, from 51 per cent at the year end in March to a pro forma figure of 27 per cent. The deal would lead to around a £3.5m dilution in operating profits, but that should be offset in the current year by the absence of the £4m hit last time from the BSE scare, Hazlewood said.

The news accompanied the announcement of pre-tax profits cut from £34m to £32.3m m the year to March, a rise of 8.8 per cent once a £4.7m charge for the sale of a recycled paper business was excluded. A final dividend of 4.5p raises the annual total by 3 per cent to 6.9p; payable from underlying earnings per share up 4.9 per cent to 11.9p.

Mr Simons said the group

had bounced back from the BSE crisis in the second half, recording underlying volume growth of 7.4 per cent, to give 2 per cent for the year. Margins had grown for the third successive year.

## Watson & Philip puts problems behind it

Magnus Grimond

Watson & Philip, the Dundeebased convenience store operator, put October's profits warning behind it yesterday to report a 20 per cent jump in op-erating profits in the first six months of the year.

James Watson, chairman, said the multi-temperature "Distribution Plus" business which caused the problems was now developing well, with sales increasing by a half.

He said they were turning

away lower margin business for the likes of schools and hospitals in favour of areas where "we can add value for our customers and make acceptable returns."

Major contract wins included a deal to supply the Rain Forest Cafes themed restaurant chain in the UK and Europe and La Belle Epoque, the Lonrope's biggest.
The enhancement of our

ability to supply chilled and frozen food leaves us well positioned for expected new business opportunities as they arise. We will continue to focus on managing maximum efficiency gains", he said.

The news prompted a 4p rise in Watson's shares to 436.5p yesterday, but they remain well short of the 466p they were at before October's warning.

The group unveiled pre-tax profits raised from £6.78m to £7.15m in the 26 weeks to April, a 24 per cent rise when exceptional items are stripped out. The interim dividend goes up 7.5 per cent to 5.7p.

The figures included a £4.32m

exceptional credit to cover expected income over the re-

don restaurant billed as Europe's biggest. tract to supply the Spar/VG retailing group. The move came after it became clear that there was no chance of the group resuming the work again. The credit was partially offset by a £3.83m charge following a decision to exit vacant properties, mainly comprising surplus depots.

Mars Retail

and a forest territory

Food service operating profits rose 18 per cent to £1.3m, but the main driver remained the Alldays convenience store of vision. That saw a 28 per cent increase to £6.8m, including a 90 per cent jump in results for franchised operations to £2.34m.

These are run through Alidays' unique regional development company network, which involves head franchisees being given the right to operate up to 40 stores in a given region, with fi-nancial backing from the group, maining three-year life of a now in exchange for putting up discontinued wholesaling con-

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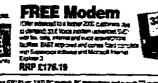
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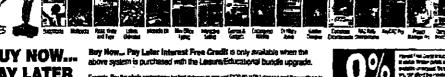
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### Company Results Turnover £ Pre-tax £ ₽₽\$ aphics (F) 9 58m (8.08m) -239,638 (175,631) -0 91p (0.71p) 8.89m (190 51m) -2.85m (-812,000) -7 35p (-1.0\$m (355,000) 210,000 (118,000) 5.9p (3.0p) 1.0p (0.9p) 233,9bm (185 3m) 32 17m (25,22m) 28.5p (22.3p) 19p (14.5p) 99.5m (102.2m) 14.7m (18.7m) 10 8p (13 4p) 4.2p (4 0p) 74.92m (71.92m) 6.5m (3m) 3 4p (1 4p) 0 8p (0.4p) Sirevend Cachines (F) 9.47m (-) 1 08m (-) Hackeneed Foods (F) 765.6m (766m) 37m (34m) 5.64p (-) 12 85p (13 54p) 6.9p (6.7p) Huntimos Armiley (I) 29 32m (28.38m) 1 96m (77,000) 5 0p (3 95p) 1 5p (1.5p) 8.22m (6.96m) 455.000 (283.000) 4.5p (3.1p) 3.0p (2.5p) **8.** (F) - (-) 32.8m (49.4m) 10.19p (15.45p) 4.8p (4.6p) Landon Merchant Sec (F) - (-) Mountview Estates (F) 20.41m (18.11m) 8.39m (7.89m) 122 Sp (115 Sp) 42p (27p) Parts & Seed Hows (F) 151m (138.2m) 7.47m (18.35m) 41 9p (130.9p) 14.48p (12.87p) 66 44m (60.04m) 6.1m (6.5m) 4 84p (0.33p) 1 8p 14.18m (12m) 321,000 (1.62m) 1 9p (10 1p) 2.35p (2.35p) Themes Water (F) 1.29bn (1.19bn) 371.8m (228 7m) 82 Bp (50.7p) 34.4p Tincley Rebor (F) 51m (47m) 4.5m (3.5m) 8.8o (8.5p) 2.8e (2.25p) Wadson & Philip (1) 297.2m (278m) 7.15m (6.77m) 11.3p (9.8p) 5.7p (5.3p) 128.5m (130.3m) 5.06m (10 17m) 2 4p (5 7p) 2 3p (5 2p) (F) - Final (I) - Interon (N) - Nine months

## Portsmouth to widen publishing interests :

**Cathy Newman** 

Portsmouth & Sunderland, the publisher and retail group, is preparing to hit the acquisition trail now its period of heavy in-vestment in printing facilities and shops is at an end.

The newspaper group said yesterday it was looking to expand in retailing and publishing. out warned it would not overpay for regional newspapers. Charles Brims, chief executive of Portsmouth & Sunderland, said: "We'd like to make acquisitions in publishing and re- £9.9m gain from the sale of the

comes along at the right price." He said he would identify opportunities to buy individual titles or entire publishing companies, but only in adjacent areas where cost-savings could be made. Over the past two years Portsmouth has spent £45m on printing presses and opening branches of its One Stop Community Shops.

Underlying profits before tax were up 3.3 per cent to £9.3m in the year to the end of March. The previous year's profits of £18.6m were flattered by the tailing if the right opportunity Croydon Advertiser Group.

## 'We're not going to Manchester'

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

Claes Hultman is never one to pull his punches, but the ebullient Swede, who runs Eurotherm and Wembley, is not going to win any friends in Manchester af-ter comments he made yesterday. Mr Hultman, who is busy sorting out Wemb-ley's problems, said the FA Cup Final was likely to remain at Wembley despite the site having to undergo a £120m overhaul after being chosen as the preferred

location for the new National Stadium.

"People want to go to Wembley and watch the FA Cup," he said. "It is an option to renovate the ground in sections. We would like to keep Wembley open.

After all, who would go to Manchester to watch the Cup Fine!?" to watch the Cup Final?" Mr Hultman is no stranger to contro-

versy. Last year he was at the centre of a boardroom bust-up with fellow directors at Eurotherm, the electrical components supplier, where he is chief executive. He resigned then was reinstated after institutional shareholders kicked up a fuss. This year he will take a pay cut after

the group announced disappointing in-terim results. "With profits falling I will not get my bonus," he said.

Lord Harris of Peckham, the outspoken chairman of Carpetright and former treasurer of the Conservative Party, has declared his undying support for William Hague in the battle for the Tory leadership. The millionaire carpet king, who recently shelled out £50 after losing a bet with journalists on the outcome of the general election, said he waspersunded by Mr Hague's stance on Europe: "Ken Clarke is in favour of a single currency. I don't think we'll be ready for that for a few years. The Conservatives also need something different. William is young, new and enthusiastic."
Lord Harris says he is not looking for



Controversial: Claes Hultman wants to keep the Cup Final at Wembley

another active position in the party and will no longer make regular donations to the Tories. However, he tells me he is on hand for a spot of fundraising. If William wants me to invite friends for dinner, I'm always willing to help."

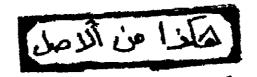
After accusations of nepotism on the appointment of his 28-year-old son. Martin, to the board, Lord Harris said none of his other children would sit at the high table. Carpetright also employs older son Peter Harris, who is in charge of purchasing. Martin is looking a reluctant star. Not only did he ask not to be on the board, but while Lord Harris says Martin is being groomed to take over when he retires, probably in ten years, Martin is playing coy: "The right man will get the job. Whether that's me or not remains to be seen."

The legal world is agog with the revelation that Stephen Cooke, deeply involved in merging Guinness and GrandMet, has found the time for a spot of moonlighting as a writer of film scores. The Slaughter & May partner's credits apparently include the music for the Channel 4 documentary *The Dying Rooms*. One of my colleagues, who spent his schooldays being overshadowed by this renaissance man, says the development is in keeping with the character of someis in keeping with the character of somebody who seems to bely his firm's ultradull image. Before leading a punk rock outfit, his party piece was adapting popular songs, such as Johnny Cash's Thing Called Love to local themes.

Viscount Montgomery of Alamein can stop spinning in his grave; the future of his famous duffle coat has been secured. or at least the company which made it is facing a more certain outlook. Abe Tibbett, the company doctor who saved the Wellingborough-based maker of The Montgomery Duffle from the hands of the receivers in 1980, is bowing out, but continuity at the 99-year-old company is being preserved through a management buy-out backed by Murray Johnstone, the Glasgow-based venture capital

No figure is being put on the deal but Richard Nelson, the new managing director, is a happy man. Taking as a party in the Mountains in the Northamptonshire factory raged in the background yesterday, he waxed: "Clothing companies are two a penny, but this is a rather special one. We are going forward." Certainly duffle coats are enjoying a revival in the UK at the moment but they appear to be even more popular overseas. The Japanese are apparently prepared to part with up to £600 for a genuine English model.

e Materials



## market report/shares



Share spotlight

Turbulence expected as huge option expires on Friday Suddenly equities are very nervous. With Gordon Brown's fer. The position could be made worse by other recent op-

option has come dramatically

unstuck; it banked on Footsie

The contract was taken out

romping ahead it has been get-

for nearly two months.

It would, therefore, be sur-

prising if the investment house

involved, rumoured to be a ma-

jor institution, has not already

being at 4,300 points.

first Budget and its implied tions and futures activity. threat to institutional tax relief Many speculators, banking aiready taking its toll, the stock market was ill-prepared for an on a sharp Footsie correction, roiled over short-term con-tracts. It could all add up to a outbreak of futures and options vicious squeeze and Friday's ex-piry could be one of the most On Friday one of the biggest punts on the direction of turbulent sessions witnessed for shares - alleged to be around £1.5bn - is due to expire. The a long while.

Budget and expiry fears, plus the continuing fall-out from National Westminster Bank, took Footsie down 62.9 points to 4,682.2. It has lost just in November. With Footsie over 100 points from Friday's record high - not a big fall but it has created worries that the ting seriously out of the money market is in for a sweaty, uncertain summer, even if the Budget is not as fearsome as

some expect. Many strategists predicted a degree of Budget uncertainty would take the shine from



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

age price of 577p. It said it had

no intention of bidding for

of the banking sector with Abbey National off 37p at 831p and Lloyds TSB 20p at Although Footsie's recent upsurge left the rest of the mar-ket floundering in its wake its sudden display of weakness has 606.5p. gripped supporting shares with the FTSE 250 index and the Grand Metropolitan and Guinness were the toast of Gumness were the toast of Goldman Sachs, which suggested prices of 660p for the two merger hopefuls. LVMH, the French group which opposes the deal, barged in by cheekily buying 4,750,000 GrandMet shares at an average price of 577p. It exist it had FTSE SmallCap index giving ground.

There was, however, no deluge of selling. Turnover remained around average with Norwich Union, down op at 318.5p, attracting a 40 million-NatWest slipped a further

9.5p to 745.5p and would have gone lower if some absurd

3.5p to 205p.

BSkyB tumbled 21.5p to 566.5p as chief executive Sam Chisholm said he would leave at the end of the year. Some suggested the Chisholm factor was worth 100p a share.

EMI, the showbiz group, picked up 120,000 shares at 1,170p. It is returning nearly £500m to shareholders through the creation of "B" shares, worth 114.5p, which can be redeemed shortly after they are

Carpetright rose 37.5p to 478.5p on its results, dragging MFI Furniture 7p better at 142p. British Vita, the chemical group, edged ahead a further 3.5p to 219p amid talk BZW had turned positive. The

Midland Independent non and Rage Software put on 1.25p to 4.5p after selling a loss-Newspapers, the Birmingham Post group, rose 30p to 179p as making off-shoot and exit disclosed it was in takeover pressing bopes it will return to profits. Managing director Paul talks with Mirror Group, off

Finnegan purchased 560,000 shares at 3.5p. Petra Diamonds firmed to 108.5p; it has acquired diamond concessions covering 10,000 square miles in north

eastern Angola.

Bakyrchik, the gold hopeful,
was suspended at 83.5p as it sought more cash.

débuts. Powderject Pharmaceuticals reached 197.5p from a 185p placing and Highland Timber, off a 120p launch, reached 127.5p.

On Ofex, Capolito Roma, a clothing and footwear retailer, rose 4p to 47p. The company

90.5p on hopes of takeover action and Rage Software put on that William Grant & Sons, the unquoted Standfast Scotch whisky group, is stakebuilding at Burn Stew-art, a whisky group with a record of declining profits since it came to market six years ago. Some believe Grant, which held abortive

merger talks with Burn Stew art, could have 2.9 per cent of the capital, Last night Burn Stewart hosted an investment dinner. Profits last year were hit by a dispute with its auditors; the problem has since been resolved and stockbroker Charles Stanley expects profits of £3m for the year ending this month. The sbares closed at 63.5p.

Springwood, the leisure group, could make profits of £1.7m this year and £2.4m next, says stockbroker Teather & Greenwood. The

GrandMet, up 15.5p to 581p; Guinness rose 8.5p to 588.5p. Engineer Siebe, as its takeover of APV drew toaken evasive action. Even so there are fears it has said it is in takeover talks. story of a takeover bid had not could be forced into dumping some shares and there was talk the index is heading for 5,000 One rumour is Owen & Robinbeen heard. son, unchanged at 10.5p, will bid 55p a share. wards its close, gained 18.5p to shares were 192p last month. Even so, the accident-prone Bluebird Toys rose 10.5p to yesterday of large lines on of- remains unaltered. bank helped unsettle the rest shares rose 3p to 101.5p. ### Price Clag 14st Price Class

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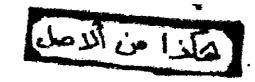
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ently in conversation with the

outsider, Running Stag Equal-ly outstanding was his bur-

nished chestnut hide, which

appeared to have been the

the season for throughbreds

that ensures that the buttonholes

occasion. The eight runners for

yesterday's feature race were

mobile artwork as well as ath-

letes, the big-bottomed Desert

King and Daylami especially kind on the eye. The latter, a

milky grey, wore a white nose-

band, which was lost on him like

plimsolls on a snowman.

Royal Ascot falls at a point of

work of a French polisher.

ROYAL ASCOT: An owner receives the opening day credits while on the track a top filly produces an outstanding performance

## Sheikh has the Palace credit

allowed to prance around per-

ished the moment Frankie Det-

tori shoved Starborough to the

vanguard early on. "He has

got a very high cruising speed

and there were some horses out

there with a greater turn of foot

so I wanted to take the sting out

of them," the Italian reported.

RICHARD EDMONDSON

NAP: Cadeaux Tryst

(Royal Ascot 4.20)

NB: Humourless

(Royal Ascot 5.30)

By the time the contestants

returned towards the turnult of

only Air Express retained

enough energy in his legs to give

RICHARD EDMONDSON

When Sheikh Mohammed speaks so many people jump that the earth probably weighs considerably less for a moment. One of his trainers, David Loder, went so far that he was over the moon yesterday after are not alone in blooming for the complying with the owner's instruction to run the victorious Starborough in the St James's Palace Stakes. "I have to say that all the credit for this win is due to Sheikh Mohammed because I was very keen to run in France on Sunday over 10 furlongs but he insisted we come here, Loder said. "He was quite right.

This is the meeting."
Starborough looked the business both before and during racing yesterday. The colt made himself notable in the prelimi-

may be able to win on his seasonal

NO PAGE TO

at least more for

return from wintering in Dubai. The

election broke the track record at

It was heat, however, that characterised this year's St James's Palace Stakes from the outset. There were the winners of four of this year's European 2,000 Guineas on display but any notion that they would be naries by baying wildly, appar-

ROYAL ASCOT 2.30: The unbeaten Among Men has HYPERION'S a good chance of emulating his sire. Zilzal, by winning this for Michael Stoute, while Tayseer is reported to be the best horse in Ed Dumlop's stable. They are both drawn high, however, and Kahal and SHA-HEEN have greater appeal among those berthed on the stands side. The 3.05: DAUNTING LADY made a former was a top-class juvenile (for Dunlop) and now that the Godolhuge impression with a runaway win phin team have hit some form he

enly Abstone, who has since validated the form. Ascot Cycione Verse over this track and trip last carried a big reputation into her September. Rebecca Sharp is held in high regard by her trainer who has Bath debut, started odds-on and won

spectively, were the most dis-3.45: Four of the fillies so comprehensively beaten by Sleepytime in the 1,000 Guineas reoppose here and they may not be chasing a lost cause as the favourite is unlikely to get the testing pace that enables her to produce her best. MOONLIGHT PARADISE, who was probably carrying an injury when disappointing in the Guineas, may be the one to take advantage, but it is worth remembering that Khassah holds a decision over Sleepytime as they were second and third to Reams Of

ent record at this meeting.

had won the tombola prizes of the Italian and German Guineas, to mount a chase. Clive Brittain, his trainer, whose hopefulness is such that he would go hunting gator with rod and line, was once gain rewarded for his audacity with £40,000-plus in place money. He was not surprised, "If a horse has won two Classics, I the stands, it became clear that don't care if they're in Timbuktu, it means he's a good horse," Starborough a race. Daylami and Desert King, the French and Irish Guineas winners rethe Newmarket man said. Starborough, though, revelling in the new tactics that have been employed with him this sea-

trainers Alain de Royer-Dupré

and Aidan O'Brien, leading

figures in their domestic fields,

had yet to saddle a Flat winner

in Britain. (The Irishman did,

however, clean up his discrep-

It was left to Air Express, who

ancy 35 minutes later).

4.20: Yesterday's 28-runner Britannia Stakes over this straight mile failed to confirm any draw advantage, but it would seem best to stick with low numbers, who dom inated the finish of last year's Hunt Cup. John Dunlop saddler the first and second in this race in 1986 and his son Ed could well get near to repeating that feat with BOLD WORDS and Cadeaux Tryst. The former must break a poor record by three-year-olds in this event but should be running on well in the closing stages. Kala Sunrise, on offer at 50-1 this morning, has prospects of reach-

appointing. Their eclipses continued the freak statistic that the he was a little bit keen at home so we dropped him in for his races to give him a chance," Loder said. "This year we decided to just let him roll and, as you can see, when he gets going he's got a pretty ferocious roll."

The result resuscitated the value of the English Guineas, in which Starborough was fourth to Entrepreneur. (Michael Tabor, the latter's owner, reported yesterday that nothing had been found amiss medically with his Derby flop and the Irish equivalent could be the next apping point).

"He's improved between seven and 10 pounds since he ran in the Guineas," Loder said. "We felt that over this stiff mile we could turn the gas on with him and it would take a good one to go past.

"And a bend helps him. If



you're in front it's like when you're running a race yourself and you're at the front of the convoy. You steal a length at every turn and that's what

counted in the end today.'

All options are now open for Starborough, who even holds an engagement in the Irish Derby, though he is far more likely to run in the Eclipse. But then again Sheikh Mohammed may have in mind a claimer at Nad

Results, page 31

### ROYAL HUNT CUP - 10-YEAR-TALE 1967 88 89 90 91 62 98 94 95 96 Pate of the Important 3 2718 1 3 28 429 19 30 25 1 Witnes's place in hetting 2: 6 1 0 0 0 0 0 2 1 10136151501361361361361 hering those: 10. 14 5 4 30 11 19 30 30 3 red; or loss to \$1 state; Frenchten, +15.08 \$-exest National Section 5.7.50 properties of winners placed thir, 2nd of Set in like 1962-585 test priori where: I've Principe \$1,00000 good-priced volumes: Potterfacto SS-1, (1990) ing, lectorys: Pat Econy ; Tulk Perpoles (1989), separat Baller (1989) J Rind - Governance (1988), Species The Tail (1989).

NOTTINGHALE

Conectis 8.20 Tracking 8.50 High Desire 9.20

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

STALLS: 5f & 6f — stands side; remainder — inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers may be best for im.

Left-hand, oval course. Flat and galloping with easy turns.

Course is 2m E of chy off 8836. Station 2m. ADMISSION:
Cath \$12 (Juniors, 18-21 years, \$8); Tattersales \$8; Siver Sing
& Paddoct \$4. CAR PARK: free.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Emphastions & Schleandra (9.20);
DemoRition 30 (visored, 8.20); Spring Campaign (visored, 8.26).

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATE: Note.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Chapunee's Areas. (8.20)

sent 222 miles by A Newcombe from Hunshaw, Devon.

6.50 SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300

7.20 KPMG PASAS HANDICAP (CLASS 54.76)

- 18 deciared -BEITING: 5-1. Princens Eliaio, 11-2 The Negotiator, 13-2 Therices, 8-1 Ren Gens, Rotlike, Kingchip Boy, 10-1. Scenicris, Lucky Regonia, 10-1 others 7.50 TATTERSALLS AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 270 5f

added 1m 6f

Phoenix Princess

## Homage from **Cecil after** Sham's show

**GREG WOOD** 

When certain jockeys return to the winners' enclosure and insist that their mount is "the best I've ridden", they are met by a chorus of knowing sniggers from an audience which has heard it all a hundred times before. When Henry Cecil offers a similar judgement, however, everyone listens, and the tight huddle around the most successful trainer of the last two decades was an oasis of silence here yesterday as Cecil declared Bosra Sham to be the finest horse ever to carry one of his saddlecloths.

This, remember, is a man who has prepared 19 English Classic winners, horses like Reference Point and Oh So Sharp, Old Vic, Diminuendo and Wollow, but after Bosra Sham's eight-length stroll in her Group One wins at eight the Prince of Wales's Stakes, no one was in a mood to argue. "I've never said it before and I almost hate to do it now because so many of them have been good to me," Cecil said, "but I think she deserves it now."

Bosra Sham has now won seven of her eight starts, with a second place to Mark Of Esteem in last year's Queen Elizabeth II Stakes the only blemish on an

Mies Jo. 9-2 Cherished, 5-1 Positive

4 THE GROVELLER (12) PD Bors 87...

OVER HOPE R Boss 8 6...

THE HUST R BOSS W BOSS 7 13...

THE HUST R BOSS W BOSS 7 13...

BETTING: 7-4 Conectis, 7-2 Spris Elvalo, 4-1 Tangerine Piyer, 8-1 Frame Tower, 10-1 The Groveller, Jacobina, 16-1 Cape Hope, 20-1 others

8.20 EEF NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D)

8.50 BURTON JOYCE SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) £2,875 added 1m 2f

1 00000 LILA PEDISO (40) (D) Mes J Craze 4 9 10 ... O Pears (3) 15
2 440301 ARZANI (LRA) (23) (D) D Cosgrove 5 9 8 ... M Rhamer 7
3 200220 SAMOMOR DEPME (9) S R Bowring 19 9 6 ... S Welssler 8
4 15000' Big PMF (594) (D) J Criste 8 9 6 ... S Ministen (9) 11
5 40-006 Hight DESIRE (8) J Amoid 4 9 5 ... Ministo Dayer (3) 13
6 600-00 SPREND CAMPAISM (23) M Pipe 4 9 4 ... T Qulan 14 V
7 32439' SULE MORE (1815) B Milman 5 9 3 ... T Syrahe 17
8 00-500 PREZEDENCY (9) K MONER 5 9 2 ... F Type 17
9 003054 RHURR RIM (9) (D) R Holinshead 5 9 2 ... F Type 11
10 70000 RECEIN AUDIEMENT (182) W Muses 4 9 0 ... B Doyle 5 1
1 -00003 RACING HAWK (4) (DD) M Samques 5 8 13 ... R Price 10
12 6-2063 DIAMOND CROWN (9) (CD) M Ware 6 8 12 ... K Pallon 2
13 000-00 CONDC MEL (7) (D) Parace 6 8 11 ... A Price 10
14 300-00 CONDC MEL (7) (D) Parace 6 8 11 ... J Quien 16
15 45000 OFERA FAN (15) K Morgan 5 8 11 ... J Quien 16
16 0-4005 MONESHETTI (18) J Haurs 6 8 10 ... G Daffield 9
17 040 WHELDON (13) S C Winson 3 8 8 ... S Drowne 18
18 0-004 AQUAMITA (20) R Hannon 3 8 8 ... W J O'Cornor 4
EETTIME 9-2 Arzani, 5-1 Aquanta, 7-1 High Desire, Whelidon, 15-2 Diamond Crows, Sandmenor Denies, 10-1 River Rum, 12-1 others.

9.20 OLD LENTON HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO filles 1m 54yds

£4,850 added 2YO 6f

50 CHERISHED (S) P COL: 87
42222 DEMOLITION JO (2) (BF) P D Sens 8 7.....
0 MAKE BELIEVE (19) R Charlon 8 7.....
502 POSITIVE AIR (40) B McMaton 8 7.....
- 6 declared -

06 WED LELY (LO) M Ryan 7 13 ..

ASHANGEN Bob Jones 8 6.... CAPE HOPE R Boss 8 6.....

otherwise perfect record. The field for yesterday's race was one of the poorest she has faced, but the burst of speed which carried her clear in the straight was breathtaking none the less, and Cecil is now planning a campaign which could mark her down as one of the finest competitors that any of us have seen.

"As we are going to see her for the rest of the year, let's try and appreciate her because we might not get another one like this for some time," Cecil said. "She will run next in the Eclipse [at Sandown on 5 July], and then it's whether we go for the Sussex Stakes, or the King George or the International at York, I'm not sure whether to run her over 12 furlongs [in the King George], I'd hate to ruin her.

she doesn't deserve it." To add the King George to and 10 furlongs would secure Bosra Sham's place in turf history and Kieren Fallon, her iockey, is confident that she has what it takes, "I think she'll stay a mile and a half," Fallon said. "I would prefer to step her up rather than go back to a mile but she's got so much speed I think she can do either.

For the second year running, a former Cecil resident who now races in the royal blue of Godolphin took the first race of the meeting, the Queen Anne Stakes, but while Charnwood Forest's win 12 months ago was just one more stopping-off point on the road to the trainers' title, it was a much-needed moment of relief for the men from Dubai when Allied Forces held off Centre Stalls yesterday.

"We've been in the wilderness for a long time so it's nice to be back in the winner's enclosure," Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, said. "I don't believe there has been a problem, 90 per cent of it has been that the horses haven't been good enough and we've been asking them to compete at a level that's a little too tough for them. We've decided to move out a lot of older horses, DUING IN THE NOR bring them along for next year."

Another hint for 1998 was Harbour King's success in the Coventry Stakes, a first win on the Flat in Britain for Aidan O'Brien. The nudge, however, may be towards King Of Kings. another of O'Brien's two-yearolds, whom the trainer conceded "might have a length or two" on Harbour King. A more immediately relevant snippet is that Harbour King is said to be the worst of O'Brien's four juveniles at Ascot this week.

Royal	<u>Ascot</u>	<u> </u>	<u> 45</u>	
Hosse	С	8		
Steepytime	8-13	46	47	4-6
Classic Park	41	9.2	9.2	<u>92</u>
Kharreb	7-1	5-1	11-2	7-1
Headight Paradi	sa 6-1	<u> 15-2</u>	91	7-1
Ocean Pales	121	12-1	141	<u>12 1</u>
Rebecta Starp	25-1	33-1	33-1	<u> 20-1</u>
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11			_	_

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Tregeron	10-1 11-1 11-1 11-1
Bold Words	10-1 11-1 10-1 11-1
Mandago	224 11-1 11-1 11-1
Crown Court	12-1 11-1 12-1 12-1
Dencing Image	101 141 121 121
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Counques Hill	161 141 161 161
Decema Bud	22-1 161 181 20-1
Slay Dome	331 251 221 251
Tertium.	25-1 20-1 <u>88-1 25-1</u>
Gaies	33-1 33-1 18-1 25-1
Red Robbo	334 201 201 234
Carleson Tryot	334 334 284 334
Ramotz	33-1 33-1 28-1 33-1
Hafts Pal King Of Tunes	33-1 33-1 40-1 33-1
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A- 0000 11-4000	



### as she pleased. She is the danger. NUM / STORE TO SERVICE HYPERION 4.20 Bold Words (nb) 4.55 Winter Garden

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places). STALLS: Straight course – stands side; ro DEAW ADVANTAGE: None.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Bigut-hand course with testing uphill finish.
Course is near junction of A320 and A330. Access from M3 (Junc 3) and M4 (Junc 6). Helicopter-handing facility at course (Heathrow 16m). Railway station (service from London, Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Royal enclosure — unavailable; Grandssand & Puddock sold out: Silver Repg 27; Heath 52. CAR PAEK; No 9-135 runners gives a success ratio of 19.3% and a profit to a \$1 keel stake of £78.96; J Gooden — 18 winners, 111 runners, 16.3%, -£11.66; M Stoute — 16 winners, 144 runners, 11.7—5.28.42; E Hazmon — 16 winners, 191 runners, 2.01 rides, 14.9%, -£12.08; Pat Eddery — 30 winners, 228 rides, 13.2%, -£37.83; T Quinn — 30 winners, 176 rides, 14.9%, +£14.21; J Egid — 25 winners, 201 rides, 12.4%, -£5.80.
BLINKERED FIEST THEE: Groots Goodon (2.30); Window Castle (4.55). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Crasce Mestal (3.06) was at Hamilton on Wednerday. Donestay.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS (within GB): Piley Brigg (3.05) has been sent 387 miles

LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS (within GB): Filey Brigg (3.05) has been sent 367 miles

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2	.30	JERSEY STAIRES (GROUP 3) (CLASS A) £50,000 THE CA added 370 77 Penathy Value £34,700
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2	016-41	ANDREYEV (33) (CD) (J Palmer-Brown) R Hennon S 13R Hughes 18 97
3	23-11	CAPTABL COLLINS (29) (C) (R E Sangster) P Chapple-Hyem 8 10
4	244.24	CONTRACTOR (A H Reference)   Lamelet 8 10
5	40-250	GROOM'S GORDON (FR) (30) (D) (Ms H Focial J Durlop 8 10
6	45-1	HORNESAM (31) (D) (K C Payne) Jenkins 8 10
7	1-15	Management challe (200 flats, Vestria, Kest Pauconi D Loder 8 10
8	215-	KAHAL (243) (CD) (BF) (Godolphin) S bin Sumor B 10
9	21-32	MAN BIOMA (25) (68) (Shekh Ahmed Al Mektouti) L.Cumani 8 10
10	111-51	MESICESPO (19) (D) (Sockethin) S fan Surson 8 10
11	643-05	OMANA CITY (33) (Brian Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 8-10 A Clark 3 95
12	16-210	PRADTRIFE HOUSE (24) (D) (Facad Thoroughbreds) W Mult 8 10
13	- 02	RATIN STINGE BISA) (18) (Shekh Mohammer) J Gosdan 8 10
14	3221	SHAHEEN (USA) (USA) (D) (Thoroughbred Corporations H Cacil 8 10
15	-15610	SUPERCAL (27) (D) (Calexionian Racing Society) D Bismorth 8 10
15	341-1	TATSEER (USA) (34) (7) (Hel Salem) E Dunion 8 10
17	<b>610</b> -	WHID CHEEDAH (USA) (243) (Chevelay Park Stud) M Stocks 8 10
18		WALE 100 BUT 100 (27) (CAN CHINGSON & HENTEN S 10
19	21-41	MESHAED (USA) (16) (D) (Hamdan A Makeoum) B Hambury 8 7
20	115-14	TUMBLEMEED PEARL (33) (W S Farish III) B Meetian 8 7 B Doyle 15 93
21		VIA VERSAND (16) (D) (D H W Dobson) J Bolge 6 7 Scales 17 116
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BETTIME: 2-1 Heremand, 3-1 Denning Lady, 10-1 Acct Cyclone, Magnile, National, Pacifice, 14BETTIME: 2-1 Heremand, 3-1 Denning Lady, 10-1 Acct Cyclone, Magnile, National, Pacifice, 141 Forest Treasure, 16-1 Child Prodity, 25-1 Benefingham Blode, Eleasure D'Achorca, 33-1 others
1 Spec Dance Pandle 8 3 M 3 Kinane 8-1 (P Cole) draw (2) 13 ran
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Stakes of S	DENTE
	CORONATION STAKES (GROUP 1) (CLASS A)  5150,000 3YO 1m (round) Pen Value 5121,200  CLASSIC PARK (25) (A) (AN SEETUS BURS) A O'Béen (M 9 0
2 45	54E0 000 3YO 1m (round) Fell 1000 50abe 2 119
3.70	PARTY (25) (2) (A) (A) Seemis Burns) A O'Steri (III) 9 0
200-11	\$150,000 3YO 1m (FOURILL) Furnish A (False) (iii) 9 0
2143-5	OCEAN RELEASE MAD U. E Copperheirer) G WARES S CO. K Fallon 4 124
2-10	
13-41	OCEAN REDGE (ISA) (45) (GOODDING TO WARE 9 0
	SCHENVINE (45) (IV) (Greenby States Int IV)  - 8 declared 8 declared 9.2 Characte Park, 11-2 Knaarab, 9-1 Mountight Paradise, 14-1 Ocean

1990: Shake The Yoke 9 0 0 Pesiler evers tov (E Lelloughe, Fr) drawn (4) 7 ran portion of the State of the Others probably do too. And Cecil is surely quite right to overflook her though most of the others probably do too. And Cecil is surely quite right to overflook her though most of the others probably do too. And Cecil is surely quite right to overflook her fred Darking States defeat over the round course at Newbury as "just one of those things". Recing over round courses always involves a certain arrount of luck with a ground-swing Racing over round courses always involves a certain arrount of luck with a ground-swing Racing over round courses always involves a certain arrount of luck with a ground-swing Racing over the ras being such a sought-ship location. At Newbury, Neers Failon had newtered to go when the pace quickered, but everything carrie good in the first Classic in newtere to go when the pace quickered, but everything carrie good in the first Classic in Newton Recipies was fith, Khassasah eighth, Moonlight Pareadise much and Redector

Sharp 13th. Some of those behind are Hely to have progressed in the interim but a four-length winning margin brooks no argument and Sleepytime can lay the ghost of last Sep-tember's third (Just behind Khassahi in the Filles' Mile when she had gif the bad luck going behind her successful stablemate, Rearns Of Verse. Classic Park's kish 1,000 wotory was a shock. She was beaten a few times last year, including when tried in blinkers, and her dant's best form was as a juvenile. Selection: SLEEPYTIME

A 20 ROYAL HUNT CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS B) RECO

	<u></u>	£65,000 1m (straight) Penalty Value £59,200	District Co.
1	244-32	RAMEDOZ ALSA) (44) (D) (High Spierry B Hanbury 4 9 10	W Ryan 5 109
2	034-21	RAMOUZ (USA) (44) (D) (Hall Salem) B Harbury 4 9 10TREGARON (USA) (49) (CD) (D Helin Jones) R Aleburst 6 9 7	T Quint 14 105
3	6-6220	LONELY LEADER (27) (Salem Suhail) R Hannon 4 9 6	oo O'Nell 30 110
4	320550	CELESTIAL KEY (USA) (35) (D) (Markus Graft) M Johnston 7 9 4	J Wesser 28 104
5	14-003	CADEMOX TRYST (33) (D) (BF) (Maksoum Al Maksoum) E Dunlop 5 9 4	R HTGs 2 108
6	300-00	GENERAL ACADISMY (23) (General Hoise Adventising P Kelleway 4.9.2.1	Hamleon 20 96
7	510-21	HAWKSLEY HELL (60) (D) (P R C Momson) Mrs. J Ramsden 4 9 2	J Fortune 22 105
8	203-00	KAYVEE (23) (CD) U H Richmond-Walson) Mrs A Perrett 8 9 2	_A Clark 23 105
9	220-10	MAL'S PAL (23) (D) (W Said) D Loder 4 9 0	Ji Danley 26 103
10	100.31	GOLD SPATS BUSAL (25) (OI (Chapley Park Stud) M Stoute 4 8 12	i Redi 21,103
11	10-152	BOLD WORDS (CANO (23) (D) (Makesum Al Makesum) E Dunico 3 8 12	K Ralino 7 <i>10</i> 8
12	/12 30	NASA NUBERN (23) (D) (3F) (Armed Al Malabam) A Steaset 4 8 11	M Roberts & 1/00
13	250-60	LAW COMMISSION (29) (C) (R Tooth) D Esworth 7 8 9	Holland 11 102
14	313-04	CREARMON Hall (23) (2) (TH Chadney) N Graham 5 8 8	Cochrane 4 106
15	5131-0	CRUMPTON HILL (23) (2) (T H Chadney) N Graham 5 8 8	1 Aprese 1 –
16	3130-2	CROWN COURT (40) (DBP) (ut De La Werr & M Werr Dreen) L'Ourran 487)	Na (1444) 18 11 1
17	5-0253	FORZA FIGUO (12) (D) (God Tored Racing) Gay Kelleway 4 8 5	<b>S Sanders 6</b> 104
18	01-340	SAFAN (11) (2) (2F) (Mrs. L Brook) D Morrs 8 8 6	.H Day 29 B 108
19	1.5032	KALA SUNRUSE (29) (D) (A 5 Needforn) C Smith 4 8 6	J FEM 10 113
20	5/30-0	RED ROESO (CAN) (34) Aucayan Studi R Akehurat 4 8 5	<b>D PesBer 17</b> 98
21	1122-2	DANCING MAGE (27) (D) (The Queen) I Baking 4 8 5	1 Dettori 3 94
22	级特	ANOTHER TIME (23) (0) (1) Subject) S Woods 5.8.4	_0 8665 13 100
23	005-05	SKY DOME (60) (D) (Miss D J Merson) M Tomplers 4 8 4	<b>Heary (3) 32 10</b> 5
24	15300	VARIOUS NEWS DAY (28) (Ats. J. Chapple-Hyam) P. Chapple-Hyam 5.8.3	cockoo (3) 12 —
25	42:381	ICHE OF TUNES (11) (CD) (Lts E.Sheeten) / Sheeten 5.82 (Tex)	Domme 31 107
26	44-363	DREAMS END (4) (T & Price) P Bowen 9 8 2 (7es)	6 Carcar 9 113
27	213-00	YALIA (31) (D) (BF) (Lord Weinstock) R Charles 4 8 1	3 September 24 2003
28	1256-3	MANAGO (25) (D) (BF) Dáo Claude Lilley) G Wagg 480	
29	604033	MARUS (11) (D) (M P Burlet's Family Sentement) T D Barron 480R M	1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
30	30-245	ARSENDERGES (25) (P G Love & Partness) M Hesson-Ellis 4 8 0	
31 32	31-033	TERTIUM (11) (D) (John Saron) M Ware 5 7 12	CO 10 100
32	UQUE2U	1981 и разрат вату в тупе э / 12	Mercer (n) 70 TAN
RET	TIME: 10.	1 Bold Words, Gold Spots, Hawksley HEL, 11-1 Mandago, Tregueso, 1	2-1 Crown Court
Dan		e, 18-1 Cruspion Hill, Yella, 18-1 Dresms End, Gates, Red Robbo,	25-1 others

Denoing bases, 18-1 Comption HBI, Yella, 18-1 Diverse End, Sales, Red Rebbe, 25-1 others 1998; Yeart 4 & 6 K Falon 8-1 fav (W Haggas) drawn (3) 31 ran FORM GUIDE.

The first four home tast year were drawn 3-2-1-4, but there is enough conflicting evidence to suggest that the high numbers might hold swey this time, especially with most of the trail-bising talent berthed towards the far side. Drawn 32 is Sky Dome and Merk Tomplans makes no secret of the fact that this front-rurner, whose good form last year includes a 12th of 38 in the Cambridgeshire when drawn the wrong side, is espected to not a big race. But HAWMSLEY HILL, drawn 22, just keeps on getting better. Perhaps he was lucky to get the Newbury Spring Cup in the stewards room efter pessing the post two langths behind Hunters Of Brora, but he still ran a merivalicus race from a poor draw. He might have won the Lincoln but for hanging into the whap and the big, scopey gisting clicked six times test term, including the Rothmans North-South Final at Newmarket in the extremi. Yaita would have been a serious fancy with cut in the ground, but Makingo, who produced a strong bunst at the end of Wagoor's Donaster handicap (7) last month. This casely charge is surely going to suit Maskingo, while Calid Speats makes solid each-way appeal after last month's cosy win in a Goodwood handicap. He shaped as if he had trained on well when third to Autumn Cover in a Remption handicap on his responserance. Consepten HBI won a competible handicaps at Newmarket last July and has a good time of foor when allowing himself to be settled and covered up, while Sean Woods regards Another Time as the right type for these stonely-run, legical handicaps. Bold Woods found the race coming too soon after his Ripon with when the life is seen of these in final high just, need a shade more give in the ground at this trip, but Tregeran has the form in seven-furiong hange came back from a lengthy absence to me second to Google in a saven-furiong hange came back from a lengthy absence to the se

-		2m 45yds Penalty Value £32,450 ASSURED GAMBLE (33) (Peter A Heed) C Britain 8 11	B Do:
•	42.	FLDORADO (228) (BF) (R W Hugges) M Johnston 6 11	Dombi
•	M M23	PLEYCHER (7) (Lady Mongadale) H Montson 8 11	R Hand
•	707033	FLESTING AROUND (USA) (36) (Malesourn M Malesourn) M Stouts 8 11	99
2	00-424	PUBLIC PURSE (USA) (21) (K Abdulati) A Fabre (Fr) 8 11	5 Pes
2	1	LOGINE LOGIC (MEN) (1 to Comp) ( Copper C 44	R Cocke
6	51-43	SAUSALITO BAY (15) U.C. Smith   Balding 8 11	A Cb
7	13 003	SHE TAME (29) (Clare Boot) R Alchust 8 11	
8	110-30		
9	0.34	THERE CLEEPES (18) (Sheich Michermed) J Gostier & 11	L Dettor
10	11.57	WINDOWS CASTLE (36) (H R H Prince Falta Selman) P Cole 8 11	T Quine :
ũ	A 5474	William CARRIEN #0 (Shelift Michammed)   Curreni & 11	Pat Bibli
12	-June 1	BOOK AT BEDTRAC (32) AR M Cycan C Cycar 8 8	. K Rei

Three Cheers, 18-1 State Feir, 12-1 others 1896: Gord 3 8 11 M J Knans 7-1 (D West, ki) drawn (4) 14 ran

1896: Gord 3 8 11 M J Arabe F-1 (D Week, an J Germ 19 1 A Fair POPAM GERDE)

If over a house has been crying out for two miles it is Windoor Castle, who is closely related to the smart Carple Tree Road. Windoor Castle's staying power came to his rescue liest season when their over nine and ten fundrigs and he gist going too late when paped by Filtring Amusal over 14 fundrigs at York last time. Just preferred, though, is the Old Viccott WiNTER GARDEN, who had been progressing well prior to winning a minor conditions event, making all, at Saisbury only test Wednesday. He probably should have won over 12 furings at Newbury the time before (Franties Detori might have been gainly of over- confidence) and this staying rest should suit him. Anything André Faire brings here must be feared and Public Purse spreadeagled the opposition over an extended ten furings at Saint-Cloud last month. In terms of sheer competition, this looks one of the wester Vasses of recent years and Public Purse should go close. Book At Bedtime strikes me as a first who needs a long trip and she may surprise a few, while Assured Gambies and Three Cheers are progressive types and Assured Gambie is by Rock Hopper out of a mare who won over middle distances-plus.

1	ión duer m	Addie distances-bins.	
[	<u>5.30</u>	BESSBOROUGH STAKES (HANDICAP) (CL.) added 1m 4f Penalty Value £29,180	45\$ B) £40,000
ì			
2			
3			
		NUMBER SANDS (34) (Lord Skrything) J Dunion 494	K Darley
4 5	103.	LINEAR SELECT (Sheath Mohammad) L Cumari 493	
2			
7			
E			
9			
	5 04-00	William I had the less that the doors and a Market 484	G Resident 1
	6 62-00	DUCKLANDS LIND (ALL (See past conf.) or Record Cath) Without S	8.4 Date O'Hell'
1	7 2020	BENEFIT BLUE (36) (D) (Sheith Mohamman) 1 W Wass 4 8 3	والمراج والمستبيدات
1	<u>a 110-5</u>	BENTAL COOK IN CONTRACT DE PROGRAM 4 8 5	p deals 1
1	9 00561	PILM (199) (1) (Mas.) Serrole) B Meeten 4 8 3	- 1700 Contract
2	0 -0001	MAZUREK (IVI) (D) (Raminao Ha) in ripe 4 o 1	- رميو هماسسي
		1 Homocriess, Weblitz Sands, Zernisska, S-1 Minusek, 10-1	محمد الكالم
	23 NG 7-	Moreomess, Wester Smith, Willie Codquette, 16-1 Setter	Mary 18.4 albert
1	4-1 Gross	68 1 F Lynch (5) 14-1 (Lady Hernes) drawn (14) 20 cm	Alleri Sare Allers
- 1	OBB: Tylese	A B S J : Filliat (2) 14-1 (1904 Librica) mass (17-4 vs. re)	

TWEEVOR is 6th higher than when on the mark in this race 1.2 months ago, but he won by three lengths then and he gives Gary Stevens a good chance of a winner. Tykevor was shortheaded by For Anood in a four-turner handled per Bewardey last time, but the run with have but him spot on and there is every chance he is as good as at this stage last year. The ground is perfect, too. Write Conquer also wants tast going end he was fifth to Retter Ofter in a valuable handled with the state of the way this for a third course with Zanalaseka remains interesting in these middle-distance handleds, while his stablemass Handleds were coming back from a year off when a good third to Hoh Express at Goodwood lest morth.

HYPERION 7,00 Prime Partner 7.30 Shawdon 8.00 Opalette 8.30 Double Action 9.00 Vain Tempest 9.30 Machi-8.30 NORMAN WELLS MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS C) £9,000 added 3YO 6F GOING: Good, DRAW ADVANTAGE: None, GOING: GOOD, DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.
STALLS: Straight course - stands add: round course - inside.
Right-hand course. A sharp track with tight bends.
Course is E of city on BE26G. ADMISSION: Club S12; Tatteralls S8; Silver Ring S4; Course S2. CAR PARK: Free.
BLINGREED FIRST THIGE: Guy's Gamble (7,00); The Lambton Worm (8.30); Our Tom (whered, 7.00).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Opniette (8.00) has been and 377 miles by Lady Herries from Anginering Park, West Sussen. 7.00 NORTHALLERTON APPRENTICE SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS F) E.3,500 added 1m

1 2000-0 SPECIAL (18) (CD) E Weymes 5 9 10 ____ T Sixtint (5) 1
2 U-0430 HARRY'S TREAT (83) 1. Eyrs 5 9 4 ____ S Bookiny (5) 3.6
3 02405 FLASSTAF (183) (SK Burin 4 9 0 ___ P Wright (7) 12 V
4 230002 BENAZZIE (5) (D) M Britain 6 8 11 ____ P Wright (7) 12 V
5 60000 POLAR REPIBMI (22) 18 Notion 4 8 11 _____ P Doe (8) 2
7 40000 SIVY'S GAMELE (19) J Whiston 4 8 10 ____ Horistonian (5) 14 B
8 50005 BALLYET (18) (D) J Parkers 3 8 10 _____ Anabathay Rart 6 B
8 550005 BALLYET (18) (D) J Parkers 3 8 10 _____ Anabathay Rart 6 B
9 000040 NOBLE CANDONITÉ (55) D Shave 5 8 10 _____ Anabathay Rart 6 B
10 05-060 PRIME PARTIMER (14) F Existiny 4 69 3 ____ W Wrighton (5) 13
11 09-000 QUETTON (24) PJ J Wrighton 5 6 -___ Wrighton (5) 13
11 09-000 QUETTON (24) PJ J Wrighton 5 8 6 ____ W Wrighton (5) 13
14 0-0000 QUETTON (24) PJ J Wrighton 5 8 2 _____ Hearings 8
14 0-0000 BALLY DANCER (15) PJ Daptey 5 8 2 _____ Hearings 8
14 0-0000 BALLY DANCER (15) PJ Daptey 5 8 2 _____ Hearings 8
15 652003 MURD USO (25) GOTON 5 7 13 _____ P Bradley (8) 11
17 605-00 BEREPED FORT (79) B Mursy 8 7 10 ____ C Cogn 6(5) 4
17 4 COS-00 BEREPED FORT (79) B Mursy 8 7 10 ____ C Cogn 6(5) 4
18 ETTRIK: 9-2 Badazzin 5 - 10 Gray Baby, 11-2 Chally Denote, 7-1 Special-K, Pagebolf, 10-1 financy's Treat, 12-1 Growable Lad, 35-1 others £3,500 added 1m

7.30 COVERDALE NOVICE MEDIAN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £4.025 added 2YO 5f 7 MARIANA R Wholey 8 7 7 decised — 7 decised — EETTING: 4-11 Sheedon, 5-2 Kety Thomas, 20-Cherokee Charles, Mariana, 33-1 others 8.00 PRICE WATERHOUSE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1 m 2f 

- 10 declared BETTEVS: 9-4 Double Action, 5-1 Broad River, 6-1 Bayland Thrust, 13-2
The Lambton Worm, Barriburgh Boy, 8-1 Gaelic Storm, 10-1 others 9.00 MRDOLEHAM MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D)
£4,900 added 3YO 1m

1 5-3 FYNK (23) (NP) M Stocks 9 0 _______ Decress Motifact (3-12 to 12 t 5 4 WAN TENDEST (18) P Creptit-Hyern 9 0 ... R Haylis (3) 15 6 3-544 ZAAHIR (33) B Hills 9 0 ... J D Santin (3) 5 7 6 DINA LINE (18.3) (32) M Bell 8 9 ... M Fentes 4 8 INDIAN AFFAIR W Haigh 8 9 ... M Fentes 4 9 0 AMARIC (BILL (81) J Bostern 8 9 ... M Fentes 4 10 AMARIC (BILL (81) J Bostern 8 9 ... M Fentes 4 11 0 PERAC (A4) MW Essenty 6 9 ... M Presery (3) 11 0 PERAC (A4) MW Essenty 6 9 ... M Presery (3) 12 0 RIVER TWEED (21) J Gostern 8 9 ... J Wessery 2 -12 doctored - BETTING: 1,1-4 Vain Tempest, 4-1 Faylis, 5-1 No Greening, 13-2 Zantin, 15-2 Margic Hill, 9-1 River Tweed, 12-1 Dina Line, 16-1 others 9.30 LEYBURN MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 4f 60vds CG HOH EXPLORER (45) D Barter 3 8 10.... – 19 declared – BETTRIG: 7-4 Machiavell, 3-1 Maureris, 5-1 Aucoema Wells, 6-1 Alpha

7-1 Stathery, 12-1 Notary, 14-1 Venezues, 16-1 others

TABLE OF THE PERSON OF THE PER 2.10 Jed Keight 2.45 Left The Lucity 3.20
Mighty Sare 3.55 Petoskie 3.30
Mighty Sare 3.55 Petoskie 3.30
Resnyel 4.05 Maillou Man 4.40 Sus in
The Morning 5.15 Krabloonik

HYPERION 6.40 Caddy's First 7.10 Femine Court 7.40 Menor Mico 8.10 Woodstock Wanderer 8.40 Santolin Boy 9.10 Name Of Our Pather

England bowler's return from the international wilderness is based on a new-found self-belief, he tells lan Stafford

# Malcolm's phoenix rises for the Ashes

t is the measure of Devon Malcolm's new-found confidence that when I telephoned him on Sunday night, as requested, to see if a Monday meeting was possible, he told me to come up to Birmingham the following morning. "We'll skittle out the three remaining Warwickshire batsmen, and then we can talk," he told me, with obvious relish in his voice. And so Derbyshire did,

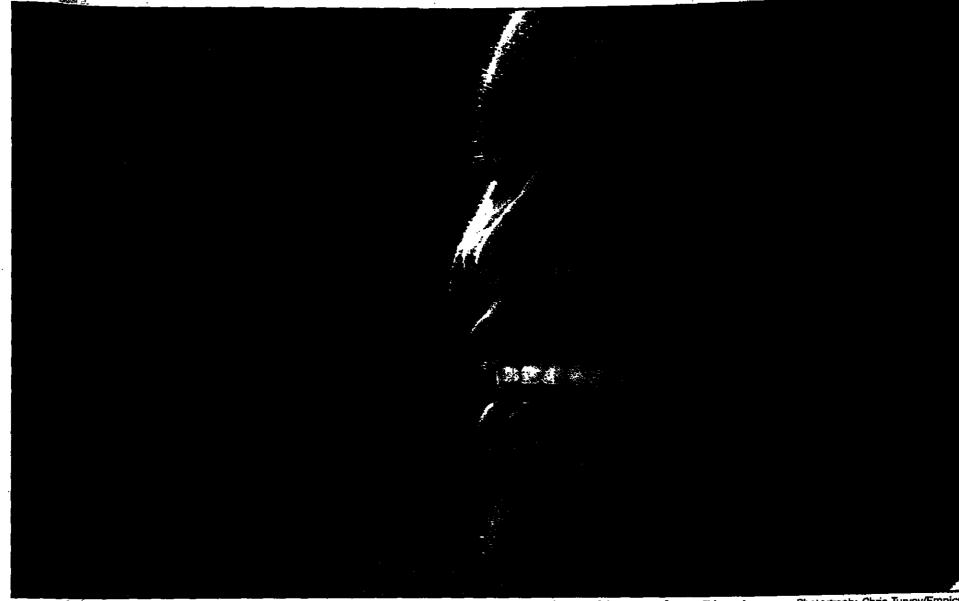
thanks largely to one D Malcolm. Fresh from a useful contribution to England's magnificent victory over Australia in the first Test, Malcolm returned figures of 5 for 85 at Edgbaston in the county match to further his current stock as England's top bowler in the Championship, and set him up nicely for another crack at the Aussies tomorrow at Lord's.

"It's just good, believe me, to be able to go out there and concentrate fully on my cricket and the opposition," he admits, as we sit in a corporate box and survey goings on out in the middle. This, for the much-maligned

34 year old, is something of a novelty, even if his Test career has spanned eight years, 35 Tests and 124 wickets. He started off his international career well enough, but after playing in 11 Tests against the West Indies. India and New Zealand, he has since been dropped more times than a football by a Scottish goalkeeper. Even his 9 for against South Africa at The Oval three years ago failed to safeguard his long-term future.

through a spell of playing six Tests all against different opposition," he says, with a rueful smile. "After my nine wickets I received loads of calls from friends of mine in cricket who all said: Now you'll be playing for England for at least the next two years, Dev. You can concentrate on your cricket.' But no, two Tests later, bang. I was

He shakes his head and stares out at the pitch. "There's been a lot of lost years," he adds. "I should be well over 200 wickets by now in Test matches, but how can you have any confidence in people who make those kind of decisions? When



Devon in begyen: 'The current management have put faith in the side and are prepared to stick with us, which is great for confidence

Photograph: Chris Turvey/Empics

recovery, this season is all about

revelling in a new attitude to his

cricket. "I've reached the stage

someone drops you after taking nine wickets you have to ask case. People felt I should be Even now, 18 months on, and bowling sides out all the time, when the whole sorry saga and who is being inconsistent here, but that's not my job. My job is to get a few wickets, have the batters hopping around, hit a You suggest that Malcolm has not always been the most confew fingers, and soften them up sistent bowler in the past, and for the other bowlers. He has done well to keep that while he is clearly capable of destroying a batting side, he bouncing back into the team, of

course. This he puts down to tremendous self-motivation. Yet he admits he was down and out after the well-chronicled misery of the 1995 South Africa tour, when he fell foul of Raymond Illingworth's highly dubious managerial style, was told he could not bowl, was blamed for the last Test, and therefore series defeat, and returned I would be dropped. More of-ten or not, that would be the racked with self-doubt. home a man humiliated and

sniping seems to be finally over, he finds it difficult to address the subject. Up to this point, he has been chirpy during the conversation, but now he shifts uncomfortably in his seat, and spends a lot of time looking down at the floor, "It still burts a lot," he says. "Even talking about it is very hard for me. "It was very depressing to see people so calculating and ma-

licious. It's not in my nature to upset anyone, at least off the field. But I was called all sorts of names and was written off."

He pauses again, before delivering a series of short statements, interrupted by yet more quiet moments. "It was a had

winter." Pause. "It was the lowest point of my career." Stare. "My self-esteem and confidence was totally, totally gone." Long

How low did he reach? Well, I can tell you that the first game of last season was against Cambridge University," he answers, brightening up. "Normally you look forward to this game because you expect a few wickets. This time, facing those boys, I was petrified. I found it scarier than my first Test

Despite all this, his rehabilitation process had begun. "I didn't want to bow out of Test cricket in the way the previous management were trying to portray me," he explains, "I

spent a long, long time purging myself of the whole episode. It was very, very difficult to turn it around, but I tried to use all the negativity to strengthen me, and I received a great deal of support from my family."

He ended last season as the leading English wicket-taker, but this was not enough to get him on the winter tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand. "I never expected to go, either, because of the obstacles. Not with that management. But at least I had my confidence back, and it helped that I knew that, elsewhere, around the world, the top batsmen respected me. Speak to any of them, and they'll tell you so.'

If last year was a process of

now when I'm not really listening to anyone any more. but just backing myself. I've been trying to please everyone before. I listened to all the advice, but the problem was that the advice from everyone was different. I was confused and thinking to myself: Who the

bloody hell can I please here?" A benefit this year has also helped his cause, not least because one of his patrons just happens to be Nelson Mandela. a man he first met during the illfated South Africa tour. Since then they have lunched together with John Major, who has since been dropped himself. belief in him.

"I should have been playing an important NatWest match for Derbyshire, but they let me go to London. The President heard about this and said to me: 'I heard you guys have a big match today. If you lose, I'll take the blame. He's sent me a number of letters of support as well, and I will be going to South Africa in October to run a series of coaching clinics in the townships.

First, however, he faces the small matter of an Ashes series, confident that he will be playing a major part in the outcome. The current management have put faith in the side and are prepared to stick with us, which is great for confidence. I'm in great form, by far the fastest bowler in the country, and I'm expecting to take a nice haul of

Aussie wickets. "I really believe that we can win the Ashes now. I know they'll be coming back at us good and hard, but we'll be adopting the same intense approach at Lord's and intend to nail them good and proper."

Fighting talk, indeed, from a man who was down and out 18 months ago. And if his bowling fails to batter the opposition, then his attempts to self his benefit wares surely will succeed. As we make our way out of the Edgbaston stand, he insists that I buy a few of his ties and

"Good quality silk ties," he says, sounding like a Portobelmarket stallholder. "Show them to your friends." Eventually I manage to escape from Devon's grip with a testing question about the current Derbyshire situation, in the wake of sudden and controversial resignation of the captain, Dean Jones.

'Hey," he says making his way back to his team-mates, "I. wasn't even with the team. I was playing for England. All I can say is that I'm upset about the situation, and I'm really surprised, because I didn't think matters had got that bad."

Matters are no longer bad for Devon Malcolm. A big, broad smile has returned to his face. and he cannot wait to get at the Australians once more, happy. for once, that people have

## World Cup adopts youth policy

The 1999 ICC Cricket World Cup, as it wishes to be known, was launched at Lord's yesterday under the catchphrase: "It's not just cricket." But as the cer-emony unfurled with slick aplomb, it was clear that the England and Wales Cricket Board appeared keen not to fall foul of the complacency that has some-

times dogged other large events. World Cups are a guaranteed financial bonanza, yet the ECB seems determined that this one will be populist and reach as many people as possible. As Terry Blake, the tournament director put it: "In 1999, the world will come to England to celebrate cricket."

As ever, television is the medium that will carry the message. But although the screening rights have yet to be finalised, probably the reason only two of the eight - Vodafone and NatWest - global sponsor-ships are signed and sealed, an estimated global audience in ex-street parties, gaudy merchanand assured either live or highlights coverage of each game. Closer to home it is the

has also been easy prey with some wayward bowling. He

accepts this to a point, but then

explains why this has been the

feel under pressure as a bowler.

because people haven't stuck

with me. As soon as I'd been hit

for a few runs I immediately felt

that I needed to get a wicket or

"I've always been made to

cess of two billion people is ex-pected to watch some of the characters - a ball and a bats-42-match event. Terrestrial sta- man - whose names will be chotions will be well represented sen through a children's competition and announced later. According to Blake, the message the ECB wants to give

1999 CRICKET WORLD CUP FIXTURES England v Zentzdewe (Trent Bridge), 28 Mays Shiania v India (Taurton), South Bridge, wenge (brinselven, herb), 27 Mays West Bridge, Sont Allender, Bridge (Best Bridge), 19 Mays Researd, 19 Mays Researd, v Passitani (Burton, 28 Mays England v India (Edgeston), Simplicity of Southernorth, West, bridges Southernorth, West, bridges of Australia (Md Trafford), 31 Mays Southernorth, New Southernorth, Bergadesh (Northernorth), Bergadesh (Northernorth) Match schedule
GROUP STUDIE: 14 May: England v Sh Lanke
(Lord's), 15 May: India v South Africa (Hove).
Zimbabwe v Henya (Taunton), 15 May: Australia
v Scotland (Wonzestin, West India v Philostan
(Cheinstoth, 13 May: New Zestand v Bungsdesh
(Cheinstoth, 15 May: Sh Lanks v South Africa
inforthampon), India v Zestand v South Africa
inforthampon), India v Zestand (Cartiff), Philostan
v South (Chessivale Stonet), 21 May: Hersh
v South Africa (The Ohat), Zimbabwe v
Sh Lanks (Wonzestin), 25 May: Lanks v
Sh Lanks (Wonzestin), 25 May: Lanks
(Brastel), Australia v Palvisan (Hectingen), 24
May: West India v Mon Zealand (Southampton), Spotland v Bangsoush (Einburgh), 25 May:

SEMI-FRIALS: 18 Junes Super Sail v Super Said (Old Trafford: 17 Junes Super Sail v Super per Sail (EdgDeston).

"Cricket is a vibrant game full of action and heroes.

As has been the norm for the last two World Cups, there will be white balls, coloured cloth-ing and matches played over 50 overs. Unlike the previous two competitions, no matches will be held under lights, but there will be a wide range of venues. taking in all the first-class counties, but also including Ireland,

Edinburgh and Amsterdam. There are two round-robin groups of six teams, with two points awarded for each win, The top three from each go forward to the Super Six stage of the competition, carrying forward the points made during the qualifying round. This means

every game is worth winningt. At that stage, a total of nine matches that will determine the top four teams, who will qualify for the semi-finals. Those matches will take place at Old Trafford and Edghaston, where the top primed and ready for action.



for the 1999 World Cup. A competition is being held

team of the Super Six phase will play the team placed fourth. and those placed second and third will fight it out for a place

in the Lord's final on 20 June. The duration of the competition, from its start on 14 May, when England play Sri Lanka at Lord's, to the showpiece final there, is 37 days. At that stage of an English summer the slow seaming pitches will offer a distinct home advantage to England, who will have returned

from a winter tour of Australia. England have never won the World Cup. Perhaps it is time to change that in front of a nation

### ICC's Mickey Mouse idea The International Cricket a rolling three-year cycle, could

Council has a new image, a snazzy new logo and an ambitious new president, Jagmohan Dalmiya, writes Derek Pringle. It is also about to take cricket to Disneyworld in an attempt to escape its narrow appeal. Persuade Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck to open the hatting they reason, and the world will surely follow suit.

The ambitious plan is the brainwave of the new development committee, chaired by Dr Ali Bacher, which was also instrumental in securing a programme of A team tours to associate members like Kenya. Bangladesh and the Netherlands, by the likes of England, Pakistan, Australia, India and South Africa.

Apparently, regotiations with Disneyworld in Florida are well underway and interest has been encouraging and a triangular one-day tournament, involving the nine Test playing nations on begin as soon as 1998.

If it is, it could clash with the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, which is accepting cricket as a team sport for the very first time. But although the latter has been suggested before and is therefore not as novel as the Disneyworld link, it should be remembered that the oldest international cricket match was actually between Canada and the United States in 1844, and not

England versus Australia. In the past, any decision made by ICC which required a vote was subject to intense hout of politicking, especially by those who felt the game was run from Lord's for the interests of

England and her closest allies. That squabbling has now ended and according to Dalmiya. who is president until June 2000. "a new era of collective responsibility" has begun. "We will now have experts making decisions

said at yesterday's conclusion of this summer's meeting. One such group of experts is

the cricket committee, chaired by the outgoing president, Clyde Walcott. With ICC agreeing in principle to a World Test Championship, the committee's next task will be to consider how best to achieve this. They will announce their findings in the December meeting, as well as pronouncing on the viability of World Cup every two years.

With one-day cricket now being viewed alongside Test cricket, the granting of "first-class and one-day status" to Bangladesh and Kenya, is meant to encourage others such as Scotland, Ireland and the Netherlands.

In terms of days played, Test cricket still outnumbers onedayers two to one. It is the way it should be and Bangladesh, ambitious as recent winners of the ICC trophy should be, will have their request for Test stanot just recommendations," he tus reviewed next year.

## Joiner's happy return

**Rugby Union** 

STUART FORTH reports from Harare Zimbabwe Scotland

A year to the day after losing his international place on tour, Craig Joiner bounced back with three of Scotland's nine tries in an easy victory over Zimbabwe

Scott Nichol, the top tryscorer north of the border last season, also recorded a hat-trick while Hugh Gilmore crossed jury in time for the Gauteng twice out on the wing. A touchdown from Eric Peters added to the rout, but the fact that this was the only forwards' try was a mystery considering the dominance Scotland enjoyed up front. The open-side flanker. Simon Holmes, was first to every breakdown and the locks. Stuart Grimes and Scott Murray. imposed themselves at will on opposition whose biggest player stood a mere oft 3in.

Zimbabwe, who had beaten Namibia 32-26 but lost 13-42 to Tonga in the build-up, were never completely subdued and had

a visionary scrum-half in Isaac Mbereko, who was rewarded with a try after intercepting a pass by Derrick Lee intended for Gilmore as he tried to run out of defence.

Scotland, who used their substitutes extensively, partly in view of Friday's tough follow-up with Gauteng Lions (formerly Transvaal) in Johannesburg, could not have wished for a better start. They will be hoping that their first-choice outside-half. Craig Chalmers, the most experienced player in the party, will recover from a hamstring in-

galisc.
Zinsbabwe: Try Miberelio. Conversion Tsimbs. Penalty Tsimbs. Scotland: Tries Jones.
3. Nichol 3. Girnore 2. Peters. Conversions Hodge 5.
ZIMBARNE: D Tresolta; C Graham, T Manymo. J Ewing. A Jann; K Tsimbs. 1 Imbreho; R Moore, A Kright, P Stask, B Catteral, Ttabutria, D Kirlman (Capt), B Dawson, J Durad, scriff Asst: D Lee B ondor Scottish); C Johnson. uma, O knieman (capit, B Dawson, J Durand, SCOTLAND: D Lee (London Scottish); G Johnson (Leoster), S Mechel (Metrosel, R Eritasson (London Scottish), H Gilmone (Menor's FP); D Hodge (Watsonasis) A Nichol (capit Bath); G Grehten, (Mewcastle), G Bollock (West) B Stewart (Edinburgh Acces), S Murray (Bedford), S Campbell (Metrose), E Pebers (Bath), G Hodge (Metrose), S Notices (London Scottish), Replacements: S Grimes (Watsonaris) for A Nichol, 46: S Longstaff (Dundee High) for Enhason, 55; R Shapherd (Metrose) for Lee, 60; Referese: M Wyles, (Zmipabase).



Chris Rawlinson: The hunted becomes the hunter in Munich Photograph: Peter Byme/Guzelian

### Rawlinson's gladiatorial instinct Chris Rawlinson faces the challenge of his life this weekend when he makes his European Cup debut. Ten barriers and a world-class 400 metres

hurdles field await him. But at least he will not encounter Rhino trying to knock him over with a giant cotton bud. The 25-year-old from Rotherham, who secured his trip to Munich at late

notice by smashing a 10-year-old British League record, knows what it is like to test himself against apparently overwhelming odds. Two years ago he was among the 16 final contenders in The Gladiators TV

series, reaching the second round. In so doing, he became acquainted with the physical commitment of Messrs Wolf. Raider, Hunter and the mighty "They were very competitive," he

said. "They took it as a personal insult when they lost. If one did badly, the others tried even harder to stop you." A team ethic of a different kind will

prevail for Rawlinson this weekend as he has his first experience of the competition in which every point, even the enjoyable. Jon is one of the most tal-one awarded for eighth and last, ented athletes around, but he has been counts towards a national total. Not that Rawlinson, whose only previous race of similar high profile was

in the GB v USA match at Gateshend

400m hurdles, and Rawlinson has studied them all, either on tape or in

because he made everything seem so ented athletes around, but he has been so unlucky with injury over the years,"

Ridgeon's latest injury, and the apparent retirement of Peter Crampton.

Mike Rowbottom meets a little-known athlete making his European Cup debut this weekend last. There are likely to be at least three ter this year, but the two men thought

men faster than him, including France's European record holder. Stephane Diagana, but the Belgrave Harrier is hoping to make fourth place, with an additional target of running faster than 49.50 cc. which would put him into the British all-time top 10.

Rawlinson, who only finished sitting exams for his sports science degree at Loughborough University last week, is well aware that he is operating in an event where there is a great British Iradition. David Hemery. Alan Pascoe, Kriss Akabusi and Jon Ridgeon have all achieved major medals in the

"Hemery was a very graceful hur-dler," he said, "Kriss had to work harder. But he was a bit of a role model

made the European Cup 400m hardles two years ago, is planning on coming selection an apparently simpler mat-

to be the main contenders - Gary Cadogan and Gary Jennings - were both well beaten by Rawlinson at a windswept British League meeting on 7 June.

Running into the wind, the former decathlete took the lead over the ninth hurdle and pulled away to win in 49.92sec, a personal best by 0.44sec, a League record by 0.07, and - best of all - inside the World Championship qualifying mark. With one run, Rawlinson had transformed his season, per-

haps his career. "It's surprising what four-tenths of a second can do," he said with a chuckle. "Before the race I had been concentrating on my revision and I had given up hope of making the European Cup team. I couldn't seem to get into races competitive enough to push me to the time I needed,"

Ironically, had Cadogan not turned up to the League match, Rawlinson might not have raised his level of per-formance. "If it wasn't for Gary, I wouldn't have done it." Rawlinson said. "He was preny peeved afterwards. But that's what this sport is about. I was

over the moon when the time was an-nounced. The whole thing was brilliant, apart from the fact that I was sick for half an hour afterwards."

There followed a nervous 48 hours before his place in the team was confirmed through Teletext. "I was checking it every few minutes." he said.
Two years ago his wife Suc, a PE

teacher, learned of her inclusion in the British team for the world indoor and outdoor championships by the same means. Now it was his turn. Rawlinson worked for six years as

a lifeguard at Ponds Forge pool in Sheffield. I never saved anyone's life." he said. "In reality I was a child-

As he prepares to take the plunge in earnest, he is enjoying the attentions his call-up has generated. In the last week he has had a hand-out from sports goods manufacturer and an in vitation to join the list of athletes, claiming National Lottery funding as well as front cover billing in Athletics

It's great to be in the same team as people like Linford Christie, Sally Gunnell and Roger Black," he said. I'm still a bit of a nobody, but I've

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RESULTS

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been given the chance to prove myself; And I'm up for it."

## Williams grows on grass but skips green party

Tennis

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**DERRICK WHYTE** reports from Eastbourne

Four days into her new career as a grass-court exponent, Venus Williams is busily accumulating a series of firsts. At the Direct Line Championships here yesterday, she accounted for Chanda Rubin to claim her inaugural victory in a main draw on the alien green surface.

been just cause for a healthy teenager to let down her hair and paint the town red by way of celebrating her 17th birthday. Unlike other prodigies who have attempted to make their spectacular way in the game with scarcely an acknowledgement of the world outside the

a healthy teenager with other interests and alternative pursuits. But parties are out. She revealed herself yesterday to be a Jehovah's Witness, for whom there is no such occasion as a birthday party.

"It's my religion and that's all I know," said the youngster who offered the Centre Court gathering evidence of the power and athleticism that are a major starting point in her attempt to rival Martina Hingis as the Ordinarily, it would have next superior being in the women's game.

Williams won 6-4, 6-4 against a fellow American ranked 53 places above her at No 26. Surely you celebrate your victories," someone pressed.

"Not really, I've got to play again tomorrow," was the reply from the youngster who is makcourts, Williams, thankfully, is ing her first visit to England. Angeles is a second-round

At 6ft 2in and dressed in silmeeting with Nathalie Tauziat ver-grey with beaded dreadwho put out the fifth seeded locks, Miss Williams certainly Mary Joe Fernandez. cuts a striking figure. She grunts rather loudly - too loudly for Dis-gusted of Eastbourne who re-

"I am learning to come to the net more," Williams added. "I never serve and volley as much

حكذا من ألاصل

marked that she was worse than as I do on grass so this is real-ly going to help my game a lot." Seles, the No I seed, plays her that other noise-bag, Monica Seshot provokes a rustling of the first match today, but there are beads akin to a man fingering the no second-round exertions for the trio of British entrants who Rubin threatened first, but Williams, who played her first all departed from the tournament vesterday.

Lucie Ahl and Jo Ward respectively lost in straight sets to the highly ranked French girl, Anne-Gaelle Sidot, and Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu, who now has to face Seles.

Two service breaks were But Shirli-Ann Siddall staged a fighting recovery to peg back enough in the second as Rubin's game fell away badly. Next up for the birthday girl from Los another Japanese opponent,



Hair-raising: Williams makes an impact at Eastbourne vesterday Photograph: Allsport

## **Davidson** stung by long ban

**Rugby League** 

The Oldham second rower Paul Davidson has appealed against a three-match ban for biting an opponent in last Saturday's Visa World Club Championship match in Townsville.

The Australasian Super League judiciary, meeting in Sydney yesterday, handed out the suspension after finding him guilty of the charge. But Davidson immediately appealed, as the suspension rules him out of Oldham's final match in Australia, against the Adelaide Rams, and the next two Super League

Davidson was charged with "contrary conduct" following an on-field skirmish with the Cowboys' stand-off. Ian Dunemann. midway through the first half at Stockland Stadium. Dunemann complained to the referce. showing alleged bite marks on his upper left arm, and Davidson was placed on report.

The Leeds loose-forward Terry Newton was also suspended yesterday - for one match - after pleading guilty to a "dangerous throw" on Adelaide Rams' David Boughton in Friday night's match, for which he was sent off.

The Auckland Warriors. meanwhile, are considering launching an appeal after the hooker Syd Eru was banned for his dismissal in the match at Bradford on Saturday. The New Zealand Test No 9 was sent off for a high tackle on Bradford's Andy Hodgson just before half-time in the Warriors' 20-16 victory.

The League disciplinary committee handed out a onematch suspension, which will rule him out of his club's final match of the first round next Monday's fixture at

## Lee feels strain of success

**GUY HODGSON** 

reports from Nottingham

The great British sporting revival has its limits and some were discovered at the Nottingham Open vesterday. The national cricket and football teams might be basking in an afterglow of achievement but to expect our tennis players below Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski to also rise above themselves was asking too much.

Chris Wilkinson and Martin rough treatment from Kucera, Lee tried but failed, going down in straight sets in the first round, but at least they were overcome by players who are ranked eagues ahead of them. Not so ong ago you feared for any British player whenever they went on court.

Lee, 19, could even draw en-

RACING RESULTS

2.30: 2. ALIJED FORCES (I. Dettori) 10-1; 2. Centre Stells 11-1; 3. All-Royal 9-4 fax. 11 can. riv. 1:/k. (Seed but Suron). Totas: £7.90: £2.10, £3.20, £1.60. Dual Forcess: £7.00: £2.10, £3.20, £1.60. Dual Forcess: £7.00. CSF: £22.02. Troc. £50.70. 3.05: 1. BOSRA SHAM (K Falor) 4-11 fax. 2. Altigarth 10-1; 3. London News 10-1. Royal 8.5 (IK Coch. Totas: £1.50, £1.10.

6 rani, 8, 5, (H.Cecil). Tetas: £1.50; £1.4 £2.00, DF: £3.10, CSF: £4.31, NR: Helici

3.45: 1. STARBOROUGH (L Dettori) 11-2. Air Extress 20-1: 3. Devismi 7-2. 8 2: 2. Air Express 20-1; 3: Deviani 7-2: 8 can. 2-1 ta: Descr. Ung (4th. 1, 4. (0 toder). Tota: £4.90; £1.10, £3.10, £1.60. DF: £33.30. CSF: £88.92.

4.20: 1. HARBOUR MASTER (C Roche) 16-

4.20: 1. HARBOUR MASTER (C Roche) 16-1: 2. Desert Prince 3-1 faz, 3. Bold Fact 7-1. 15: ran. 19; 4. Ja (TBren). Totas: £26.90; £8.10, £2.20, £2.70. DP: £74.20. CSF: £59.64. Tho: £162.50. 74.55: £1 F1Y TO THE STURES (O Pesier) 20-1; 2. Kotai 12-1; 3. Repler 50-1; 4. The greiko 50-1; 28 ran. 7-1 jr. fans Kernemans Star & Generous Libra: 1½, sir-hd. (M John-stor), Totas: £25.0: £5.00, £3.10, £27.10, £23.30, DP: £228.30, CSF: £193.77. In-as: £10.356.60. Tho: not won £9.210.00 to Ascot 4.20 today). 5.30: 1. SEA FREEDOM (S Drowne) 20-1: 2. Shirley Sue 20-1; 3. Aready 25-1: 4. Tamaspour 25-1. 25 ran. 9-2 siv Inchall-ch. 4, six-hd. (G Balding), Totas: £27.40;

lackpot: not won (£46,284,68 to today). Placepot: £1,124,20. Quadpot: £532,90 Place 6: £1,081,46. Place \$: £551,82. THIRSK

2.15; 1. TESSANOE II. Chemock 6-1; 2. Canton Venture 12-1; 3. Dahra 8-1. 12 ren. 4-1 fav Sendbeggedigsin. 1, stri-tot, IM Carrachol. Tote: £6.70; £2.50, £3.20, £1.80. DF. £36.60. CSF. £71.10. Titlest: £537.31. Title: £185.30. 2.50; 1. TANGRED TIMES (I Wildows) 33-1; 2. becknings 5-1; 3. Tremomonou 5-1. 17.

1; 2. Inchelong 5-1; 3. Tremomow 5-1, 17 cm, 3-1 for Final Clam, 1, 1, (D Barter). Total ESS.90; 58.40, £3.00, £2.30. DF; £305.10. CSF: £179.11. Tho; £329.60. NR: Wynbury Fiyer. 3.25: 1. PRIORY GARDENS (Mes A Dene)

3.26: 1. PRIORY GARDENS Mess A Deney 6-1: 2. Two On The Bridge 7-1: 3. Murgio Park 6-5 fex. 12 res. 3. 1%: 0 Bradley, Tete: 1780: £200. £210. £1.30. Dr. £17.20. CS-544.21. Tricsct: £77.84. Tric: £12.50. 4.00: 1. CARRY THE FLAG IA Cultures 4. 4 fex; 2. Bothlydexzet 25-1: 3. Petura 25-1.11. res. 2%: 1%: (P Cole), Tote: £1.50; £1.10. £5.90. £3.70. Dr. £21.60. CSF-£21.98. Tric: £235.00.

£20.98, Tho: £235.00.
4.35: 1. CASTEL ROSSELO (R Proct 7-2 fax; 2. Mr Cube 14-1; 3. Tendad 12-1; 4. High Spirits 6-1. 16 ran. 1%, nd. (I Campell), Tota: £5.10; £1.20, £3.60, £3.20, £2.30, DF. £43.60. CSF: £52.50. Tracast: £392.15, Tho: £321.90.
8.10: 1. HARRAMAN (I Cample 3.4: 2

23.0, Dr. 23.60. Sp. 12.00.
39.15, Tuo. 5321.90.
3.10: 1. KARANNAN U Certoin 9-4; 2. Zebristice 5-1; 3. Wissing Stone 6-5 En. 11 can. 2%, 1%, U Gooden). Tota: £3.30. £1.10, £2.10, £1.10. Dr. £6.40. Sp. 540: 1. CASHMERE LADY IO Pears 11-4; 2. Right Tene 5-1; 3. Manghty Pistol 16-18 ray, 6-4 fay Disson Gern (4th). 3%, 4. U Eyre). Rote: £4.30. £1.20, £1.80, £3.10. Dr. £12.60. CSP. £13.43. Rights £212.17. 8.10: 1. MOURTHAIN SONG IG Duffield 4.

6-1, 6-1 rout by Slovakia's Karol Kucera. "Disappointed? Not at all," he said. "I had to beat Jerome Golmard, who is 98 in the world at the moment, to qualify to play here so I'm feel-

ing pretty content." Lee admitted to feeling tired from his exploits last week at Queen's, where he reached the third round before being swatted by Goran Ivanisevic, He won only 22 points in total and his serve came in for particularly

who is ranked 64th in the world. Lee took his first service game to 30 but had to wait for another 10 games for another success, by which time the match was all but over. The end came quickly, Kucera breaking him for a fifth time to 15.

Baseball
INTER-LEAGUE GAMES: Chicago Cubs (NL)
INTER-LEAGUE GAMES: Chicago Cubs (NL)
I Chicago White Sox (AL) 3; New York Mess
(NL) 6 New York Yardeess (AL) 0; Boston (AL)
5 Philadelphia (NL) 4 (10 Immings); Florida
(NL) 7 Detrort (AL) 3; Atlenta (NL) 3 Toronto (AL) 0; Kansas Criy (AL) 5 Houston (NL)
2: Altheautee (AL) 15; Louis (NL) 0; Presburgh (NL) 8 Minnesota (AL) 6; Montreel (NL)
6 Baltimore (AL) 4; Cincilment (NL) 4 Cleveland (AL) 1.

TODAY'S

NUMBER

more than last season - who

will confest the three European football trophies in

1997-98. There will be 24

teams in the Champions league and 102 in the Uefa

Cup. The draw for the qual-

you e a sbruor griving

Men's singles SEEDS IN CAPITALS

Holder: R Krajicek (Neth)

The remedy, according to Goellner's accuracy, which

body strength. "I took two weeks in the gym before Queen's," he said, "and I real-

ly felt the benefit. I need to work

on my strength. Sometimes it's

les - and her every thumping

match on grass as far back as last

weekend, quickly asserted her

authority, absorbing a second

break of her service before

reeling off three successive

games to take the first set.

loose change in his pocket.

hard for me to stay with the power on court. The flashy shots can come when I need them. "I don't set myself goals because I could end up disappointed if I don't achieve them. I'm just looking to improve week by week." Having gone up 118 places in seven days to 382 in the

world, he was justifiably satisfied. Which is not how you would describe Wilkinson, who surrendered 7-6, 6-4, to Germany's Marc-Kevin Goellner. "His service game seemed to last 10 seconds," the British No 3 said, "while mine seemed to last 10 minutes." A reason for that was

Final day of three Oxford Univ v Notts THE PARKS: Match drawn Oxford University won toss

Holder: S Graf (Ger)

brought three aces in the opening game and 20 in total.

Daniel Nestor also had reason to feel like the coconut in the shy as South Africa's Grant Stafford whistled nine first serves past his racket although his 6-1, 7-6 defeat might seem peaceful compared with what he wili face next week.

Nestor found he had been drawn against the British No 1, Henman, in Wimbledon's first round and, having had to face Greg Rusedski on Court One last year, has every reason to feel aggrieved with his lot. "It's tough because he's going to have a lot of support," he said. "The Wimbledon crowd are

fair. At least they won't be heckling me or screaming between first and second serves like they do in Davis Cup matches in South America." Oh no?

### SPORTING DIGEST

an operating loss of £1.2m. The loss, announced yesterday, followed a deficit of more than £1m last year when the race first moved from Adelaide. Australia

France include five players from Super League rugby league clubs in their 22-man squad for the international against. Scotland at Partick's Firhill ground in Glasgow on 9 July, Wigan forward Gael Tellec and Sheffleld Eagles winger Jean-Marc Garcia Join Paris St-German trio Pierre Chamorin, Fabien Devecchi and Australian-born Jason Sands. FRANCE Squad (v Scotland, 9 July): Alco-so (Imour), Banet (Imour), Banquet (Vi-

(Lawro): Meen's servi-mass; 7 Noch (Sco) for A Barnda (Sgot) 14-15 1-1 15-12 15-12; Jonaher When (Palk) fit A Gough (Wal) 15-11 15-12 15-5; Wenteri's servi-finals; 5 Ps-1; Gerald (Aus) bit C Overs, (Aus) 8-4 9-0 8-4; M Mertin (Aus) bit S Schone (Gerl 9-3 9-4

NOTTINGHAM MEN'S OPEN First round: N Goetner (Ger) bt C Willenson (GB) 7-6 6-4; 9 Stote (Aus) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 8-3 7-6; K kucera

bt T Woodbruige (Aus) 6-2 2-6-6-2; G Stat (SA) bt D Nestor (Can) 6-1 7-6; M Woodfi (Aus) bt J Stark (US) 6-3; 7-6; J Couner ( bt J Van Herck (Be) 6-3; 3-6; 6-3. UNREST LINE INSURANCE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT (Eastbourne): Singles first round: A Sciot (Fin b) LAN (G8) 6-3 6-4; B Schulz-McCartry (Neth) bt H Sulova (C2 Rep) 6-3 7-6; S Fanns (ib b) L Raymord (US) 7-5 6-4; Y Basulo (Indon) bt E Ulriousee (Rus) 6-3 6-7; Po (US) bt K Sulonikova (Slova) 0-6 7-6 6-2; A Suggenti (Jepan) bt S-A Siddall (GB) 6-2 5-7 8-8; N Teuzat (Fin bt M) Fermence (US) 7-6 7-5.

MEMBERSHI TROBAN ATD ARM WITA GRASE

iotunghem Men's Open (Nottine

One Grand Prox, held in March, made trallan Grand Prix Corporation officials

(Sydney): Australia 6 (Slater 1.6, Arroki 1.7, Kalerea og 39, Tapal 48, 52, A Vidmer pen 75) Solomon Islands 2 (Peli 29, Sun 66). Solomon Islands 2 (Peli 29, Sun 66).

COPA AMERICA Group C (Sunta Cruz, BeBria): Cotomba 4 (Monances 13, 23, Cabrera
gen 62, Aristopala 77) Costa Rus 1 (Wingti
87); Brasil 3 (Aldar 48, Romano 62, Leonerco 80) Mesteo 2 (Luis Hernandez 14, 32).

WORLD YOUTH CHAMEPONISHIP (Malaysele)
Group A (Shah Alanng): South Africa O South Koteau; Cherta 3 France O, Group C (Alor Setar): Cherta 2 (Gambo 28, Mouldat 67)
Republic of Instant 1 (Molloy 52); United States
1 China O.

MONDAY'S LATE RESULT: Spanish League: Athenic Bilbao 1 (Guerrero 68) Deportho La

(Fr); S Dosedel (Cz Rap) v qualifier; S Lareau (Can) v P Haarhuis (Neth); N Lapentri (Ec) v F Clavet (So); Qualifier v D Vacek (Cz Rep); A Pavet (Florn) v F Dewulf (Bed); M Craca (Gen) v R RNARCEK (Neth); M PHILIPPOUSSIS (Aus) v G Rusedski (GS); Qualifier v J Stark (US); A Richardson (GS) v qualifier; J Viloca (Sp) v M Goeliner (Gen); Qualifier v D Flach (US); G Racux (Fr) v A Boetsch (Fr); H Arazi (Mor) v R Reneberg (US); A Agassi (US) v C MOVA (Sp), W FERRICRA (SA) v S Draper (Aus); J Terrango (SA) v qualifier; J Frans (Arg) v C Pfoline (Fr); F Fetterlein (Den) v J Novak (Cz Rep); L Roux (Fr) v B Steven (VZ); M Norman (Swe) v qualifier; D Pescariu (Rom) v G WANISEVIC (Croe).

dier v L Wild (LS); F Perfect (tt) v M Serchez-Lorento (Sp); G Fernandez (US) v M Oremans (Neth); N Occhy (Fr) v L Courtois (Bel); E Melerone (Rus); P Parone (Rus); H Neg-ova (Stovaid) v I SPRNLEA (Rom), C Marthrez (Sp) v K Habbauboe (Stovaid; Y Yoshida (Lepen) v R Habba (Lepen); H Sulova (Cz Rep) v S Siddai (ES); S Weng (Ru); V No-Ned (US); C Rubin (US) v A Kournikova (Rus); A Sidota (ED); Quaffier v A Hulber (Sa) v S Daville (Bel); Quaffier v A Hulber (Sen); A V S Daville (Bel); Quaffier v A Hulber (Sen); Gen); A COELZER (SA) v A Fusa (Fr); M Seeki (Japan) v P Hy-Bouleis (Can); V Williams (US) v M Grybowsiae (Pol); B Schett (Aut) v A Carisson (Swe); A Sugiyama (Japan) v Y Bezuld (Indon); M Tu (US) v I Gornochetaga (Arg); L Neliand (Jai) v N Kasmuta (Japan) v Rezuld (Indon); M Tu (US) v I Gornochetaga (Arg); L Neliand (Jai) v N Nan Lottun (Fr); A Oleza (Pol) v L Nemeclowa (Cz Rep); T Entota (CR); N Sevamentsu (Japan) v S Smith (GB); L Richterowe (Cz Rep) v T Brassugam (Tha); N Endo (Japan) v G Leon-Garcia (Sp); C Torrars-Velero (Sp) v G Pozichini (It); N Zevasu (Bela) v L Ildhovtsee (Rus); W Probst (Gar) v J NOVOTINA (Cz Rep); A Sanchez (Japan) v R Garande (It); E Callens (Bel) v P Suzarez (Arg); F Loubini (It) v S Pidowski (Fr); J Watenabe (US) v M Serne (Sp); V Rumo Pascual (Sp) v S Dopfier (Aut); D Van Roost (Bel) v M PIERCE (Fra); K PO (US) v K Guse (Aut); N Teuziat (Fr) v quantier; L Woodroffe (GB) v P Schryder (Swet; J Wesser (Aut); V R Brand (US); R McQuiffan (Aut) v M SELES (IS).

Holder: S Graf (Ger)
M HRKSS (Swift v qualifier; P Begerow (Ger)
v O Berabernschikova (Bel); E Martinikova
(Cz Rep) v I Raymond (US); M Arendt (US)
v P Langrova (Cz Rep); J Capriati (US) v A
Dechaume-Belieret (Fr); S Appelmars
(Bel) v R Simpson (Can); S Cacic (US) v
A Frazier (US); S Ferina (it) v B SCHUIZMoCARTHY (Neth); R RRAGOMAR (Rom) v
A Glass (Ger); A Eliwood (Aus) v qualifier;
G Heigason-Nielsen (US) v L Ahl (GB); M
Maleeva (Bul) v J Pullin (GB); K Studenik
(Slovek) v qualifier; R Zrubakova (Cz Rep)
v qualifier; D Chaldiova (Cz Rep) v S Heinova (Cz Rep); T Jones (US) v L DAVENPORT
(US); I MAJOLI (Cma) v N Diaz-Otha (Bel);
M Manusic (Aud) v A Gersi (Cz Rep); Qual-

Man's doubles Holders: T Woodbridge (Aus) and dings only

Seedings only

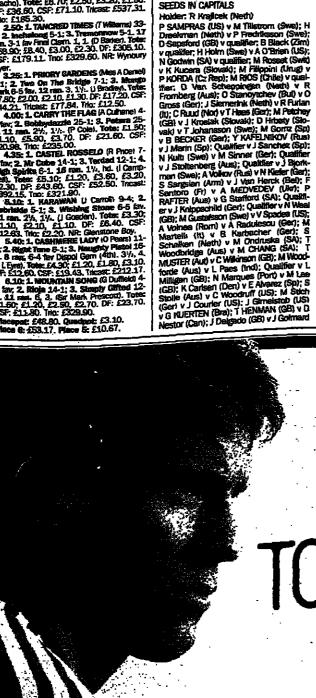
1 T Woodbridge (Aus) and M Woodbride (Aus);
2 J Edrigh (Neth) and P Haarhule (Neth); 3
Y Kafeirillow (Rus) and D Wester (Carl); 4
M Knowkes (Bah) and D Nester (Carl); 5 S. Laresu (Carl) and A O'Brien (US); 8 E Ferreira (SA) and P Galratift (US); 7 M Philippoussis (Aus) and P Refer (Aus); 8 R Leach (US) and J State; (US); 9 J Bjorfman (Swe);
and N Rust (Swe); 10 S Stolle (Aus) and C Suk (Cz Rep); 11 N Broad (GB) and P Norwel (SA); 12 D Johnson (US) and F Montana (SA); 13 M Dantm (Cz Rep) and P Vitner (Cz Rep); 24 L Prinek (Bel) and B Subtot (SA);
15 G Connell (Carl) and S Davis (US); 16 J Eagle (Aus) and A Horent (Aus).

Holders M Hargis (Swit) and H Sulcole (C2 Rep.)

Seedings only

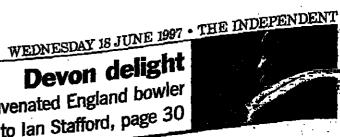
1 G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Belai);
2 M Hingis (Swif) and A Sanchez Vicario (Sq);
3 L Daverport (US) and J Novotre (Cz Rep);
4 L Neiland (Lat) and H Sultone (Cz Rep);
5 M J Fernandez (US) and M Bollegraf (Nerth);
6 N I Arendt; (US) and M Bollegraf (Nerth);
7 C Martinez (Sq) and P Tamboni (Arg);
8 Y Besuld (Indon) and C M Vis (Netth);
9 K Adams
(US) and L McNeil (US);
10 N Tauzist (F);
and L Witd (US);
11 N Kulmuta (Japan) and
N Witd (US);
12 S Appelmens (Bel) and
N Ozmoras (Nett);
13 A Fusal (F) and K Po (US);
15 C Rubin (US) and B Schultz-McCarthy
(Netth);
16 K Boogert (Nett)) and 1 Spirles

MORE POWER TO YOUR ELBOW, TIM.



sport

Rejuvenated England bowler talks to Ian Stafford, page 30



# Overmars over here as Wenger lands Dutch winger

Football

NICK DUXBURY

Arsène Wenger rolled his shopping trolley in to Highbury yes-terday and tipped out £8.75m worth of goodies - with the promise of more to come before the season starts.

The Arsenal manager's rummaging among the shelves of from Sporting Lisbon. football's continental hypermarket procured the Dutch winger Marc Overmars and the

Morte, whose name translates more than £14m but shows no and 28 they are all at Manas "good death", or possibly signs of putting away the debit chester United. Newcastle or problems anymore. I just had to good night if you happen to be

3-year-old Ian Wright. Oversians, the 24-year-old international with three Dutch championships and a European Cup winner's medal already in his bootbag, cost £7m at the Ajax checkons, while the 19-year-old BoarMorte a £1.75m bargain

Wenger, who signed the French defenders Emmanuel Petit and Gilles Grimandi ear-Portuguese striker Luis Boa lier this month, has now spent 35 age group, but between 20

card. Indeed, the Gunners' shop will have to start stocking a shirt bearing the name Alberto Mendez-Rodriguez - a 22-yearold midfielder from the German non-League side FC Feucht.

"It's not all over yet," Wen-ger said. "I might still bring in one. or a maximum two, players before the start of the season. I need to bring in younger players. We have the best players in the country in the 28 to Liverpool.

Overmars' decision to leave a "beautiful club" for a five-year contract at Highbury was influenced by Dennis Bergkamp. "I have heard only good things about Arsenal from Dennis," be said. "I like what I have seen of the Premiership. I can see there might be a little more freedom to use my speed,"

Now fully recovered from a cruciate ligament injury sus-tained in December 1995, Over-

be very strong. It takes time, but you must not be afraid."

The 36-year-old Peter Beardsky has been offered the chance to extend his first-team career at Bolton Wanderers. Beardsley met the Bolton manager. Colin Todd, yesterday after a fee of around £250,000 had been agreed with Newcastle United.

Tomas Brolin has been ordered to report back at Leeds move to Parma, following a

lengthy loan spell, fell through.
The 27-year-old Swede, who cost Leeds a club-record £4.5m from Parma in 1995, has a year

to run on his contract. Brighton supporters who have been checking out the hostelries around Gillingham. have been wasting their time. Next season's pre-match pints now look like being quaffed in south-east London, following the sudden decision to groundshare with Millwall. The New United by Friday after a £2m Den is seen as being better placed than the Priestfield

Only last week, Brighton told the Football League that the Gillingham link-up was going ahead in order to ensure the club's status for the League's annual meeting Brighton, who will still have to pay Gillingham £300,000, have until Friday to find a £500,000 bond to guarantee their future as a League club.

The Southampton midfielder Robbie Slater scored his first goal for Australia as Terry Venables' side beat the

Solomon Islands 6-2 in Sydney to win their World Cup qualifying group and earn a play-off for the Oceania title against either New Zealand or Fiji.

The Scottish League will open on Saturday 2 August with only three matches in the Premier Division. Sky Sports muscled in to home match again their Sunday make Rangers against Hearts the Monday night TV slot.

Scottish Premier Division fixtures, page 31

## Duel with the 'Scud' first up for Rusedski

Tennis **JOHN ROBERTS** 

The Wimbledon groundstaff devote all that tender, loving care to manicuring the lawns, and what happens? The world's biggest servers. Mark Philippoussis and Greg Rusedski, are sent out to launch missiles at each other in the opening

"Scud" Philippousis's record deliveries have been timed at 142 mph, while Britain's Rusedski is no slouch at 139 mph. Fortunately there is still time for the BBC to arrange to lighten the show with captions like the ones in the old Batman series ... "POW!", "BAM!", "HOLY ACES!". The script will take care of itself. The outcome of the contest will depend on which Batman returns.

It will be bad luck for one of them to have been drawn to meet at the start of the tournament. The BBC, however, will no doubt have opportunities to put the captions to further use throughout the formight, particularly since Philippoussis, seeded No 7, is projected to play Goran Ivanisevic, the No 2 seed, in the quarter-finals.

Witnesses to the bombardment when the 20-year-old the Stella Artois title at Queen's Club last Sunday will know what to expect. Bear in mind, though, that if they do meet at the All England Club the py-rotechnics will be scheduled to continue for at least three sets.

Rusedski, who came within the width of the net-cord tape of defeating Ivanisevic in the semi-finals at Queen's before losing in a tie-break, 20-18, was certainly not despondent after learning that he had drawn Philippoussis. "There are a lot of matches you would have chosen before that one," he said. "It could have been an easier draw, but it works both ways. It's

tough for him as well."
He added: "If you're going to do well at Wimbledon, you have to play these guys sometime. It's probably better to play them on the first day, when the court is lusher."

Last year, Rusedski defeat-ed Canada's Daniel Nestor in the first round, so he might be able to pass on a few tips to Tim Henman, the British No 1, who has drawn Nestor on this Henman, the No 14 seed, is

in Ivanisevic's half of the draw and is projected to meet Richard Krajicek, the defending champion, in the fourth round Britain's Jamie Delgado is a possible second-round op-ponent for Henman, who 12 months ago became the nation's first man to reach the last eight since Roger Taylor in 1973. Thomas Muster or Gustavo Kuerten, the French Open champion, are the other seeds in Henman's quarter. Muster opeus against Britain's Chris

As cruel draws go, the firstmany's Michael Stich, the 1991 champion, and Jim Courier, the runner-up in 1993, takes some beating. Whatever Stich achieves this time, he intends to bid auf wiederschen to the cham-

If Andre Agassi decides to make an appearance he will play Spain's Carlos Moya, a finalist at the Australian Open.

Pete Sampras, who might

well be facing Boris Becker in the quarters, opens against Michael Tillstrom, who brought his fellow Swede Stefan Edberg's Wimbledon career to a close in the second round last

Michael Chang. No 2 in the world but demoted to fifth seed, will do well to make it to a possible fourth-round match against Australia's Pat Rafter. Indeed, Chang might have difficulty advancing beyond a first round match against another Aussie, Todd Woodbridge.

Martina Hingis, the women's world No 1, opens against a qualifier and is projected to meet the big-serving Brenda Schultz-McCarthy in the fourth round and the powerful Lindsay Davenport in the quarters. Iva Majoli, who defeated Hingis in the French Open final.

could play the 16-year-old Swiss in the semi-finals here. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Pierce are drawn to meet in the fourth round. In the opening round, the Spaniard plays Britain's Clare Wood, and Pierce must account for Belgium's Dominique Van Roost, who made such a good impres-sion at the Australian Open. Jana Novotna, the No 3 seed.

appears nicely placed to make progress in Monica Seles's half. the final, has an opening match against Australia's Rachel Mc-Quillan. As to the other teenagers

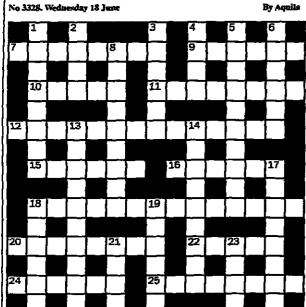
Anna Kournikova meets Chanda Rubin, the marathon woman, and Venus Williams is a possible third-round opponent for Amanda Coetzer, who capitalised on Steffi Graf's errors

Wimbledon draw, page 31



dismount after winning the feature race at Royal Ascot yesterday, the St James's Palace Stakes, on Sheikh Mohammed's Starborough Photograph: Robert Hallam

### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



**ACROSS** 1 Child-minder, on the way, carries this sticky confection (8)

9 Supports for barrels of 25 Percentage cut? (8) cold German wines (6) DOWN cold German wines (6) 10 Type of manor being demolished (5)

11 Excessively confident of 2 Endless depression in hurdling (8) 12 One's men healthy

turning out here in rows? (6-2-6) 15 Short return trip of kind 4 that is to follow (6)

16 Set free to be off (6) 18 Remarkable person to leave earth with unspecified amount (5.9)

when head is absent (8)

22 Drive out from Middle sex. pell-mell (5) 24 Lay down ring-road in a new style (6)

 Some kids at school write note in margins (8) squalid living accommodation (4)

Well, French wine will slow up a horse (6) New cure leaves one yellowish-grey (4) 5 Arthur come out for a

long walk? (10) 6 Lizards with small flaws 20 Laxity is commonplace 8 P-prudent, careful with

small sums (5,4)

13 Langdale's first vicar laid off for polishing off grub (10) 14 Haif an hour to idle,

having no home to go to (9) 17 Tempting with bait, fishing at mouth of Dee (8) 18 Prev runs into wharf (6)

19 Cook too long – past the time specified, say Americans (6) 21 Makes, we hear, of large vases (4)

23 Kitty's game? (4)

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## **Bateman and Bentley stake** strong claims for Test call

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT reports from Wellington Emerging Springboks British Isles

The Lions' proud all for one and one for all approach to beating the Springboks may still be official policy, but their equally democratic strategy of avoiding a split between the Test XV and the midweek journeymen no longer stacks up. It seems harsh to say so, for the tourists were never in much danger of meeting their Waterloo in Wellington yesterday, but most of the participants had such a clear stamp of the dirt-tracker about them that motorcycle scrambling might now be an option. There were notable excep-

tions. Allan Bateman, competing manfully but unenviably against Jeremy Guscott for a place in the only side that now matters - the one to play South Africa in Cape Town on Saturday - offered as complete an in-terpretation of the outside centre's art as is likely to be seen on this trip and he may yet feature prominently in the series. Outside him, John Bentley made a significant pitch for a wing place this weekend with a performance full of muscle. passion and character.

But those two and, just conceivably, Jeremy Davidson and Jason Leonard aside, it was difficult to imagine too many other names featuring in last

night's all-important selection debate. There was energy from Neil Back, brains from Rob Wainwright, clever hands from Tony Diprose on his first Lions' performance, pace from Mike Catt and a hat-trick of tries for Nick Beal on the left-wing, but the identities of the genuine Test contenders could be scribbled on the back of a Penny Black.

The claims of the hitherto feared England front row were almost certainly sacrificed on the fast-retreating altar of another dodgy scrummaging performance, although the selectors may just fancy Leonard's vast experience when push comes to shove with the Boks. Had it not been for the sheer top-of-the-ground speed generated by Catt and those outside him, the Lions' frailties up front might have been exposed by Dale Santon's physical pack of mix and match

Indeed, the South Africans were within a point at the break, the accomplished Warren Brosnihan and the classically equipped Marius Goosen scoring tries to remove the sting from Graham Rowntree's early rumble to the corner. That score was instigated by Bateman and delicately massaged into existence by Wainwright and, of all people, Mark Regan, who delivered the

sweetest of passes going left. Tim Stimpson's magnificent goalkicking was the difference at that point: somehow, Newcastle's occasional marksman

once again kept pace with Neil Jenkins, his great rival for the No 15 shirt in the Tests by hanging over nine from 12 for 26 points. Unfortunately for setting the important ruck wide him, his general handiwork at full-back lacked organisation and, with missed tackles creeping in both in close and out wide, the Linns were far more vulnerable at the interval than

they need have been.
We defended pretty poorly for a 25-minute spell and you can't afford to do that when there is such good rugby being played by your opponents," Ian McGeechan, the Lions' coach, said. "When we stopped working we looked bloody awful, but I take my hat off to these players for their attitude and their total belief in each other. There were good things as well, especially in the second half,"

Bentley, such a force of nature on this tour, started the good things rolling with another of his lung-busters from the backwoods of his own half. He crossed from right to left, bursting tackles asunder at will, to put Beal in under the posts and when the Northampton wing claimed a second on 56 minutes following some visionary stuff from Will Greenwood and the ubiquitous Back, the visitors were in clear blue water

Paul Treu's 63rd-minute strike, created by Goosen's slide-rule grubber to the Lions' line, raised the Bokke hopes momentarily but last-quarter tries for Sumpson, Beal and Catt spiked the bome guns for

good. Stimpson's was the pick. Back combining cleverly with both wings to open up the initial attacking position. Regan on the left and Catt hitting his full-back with a cut-out pass that might have been measured by the Ordnance Survey.

"I still think that our selection meeting will be longer rather than shorter," McGree-chan said last night, clearly meaning every word. But when the white smoke emerges from the deliberations, many of those who sweated blood for the cause yesterday will be disappointed.

Gossen, Ireu, Conversions Smith, Mont-gonery, Pensity Smith, Lions: Tires Beal 3, Rowntree, Stripson, Catt. Conversions Sumpson 6; Pensities Stripson 3. Sumpson 6; Penaltius Stimpson 3.

EMERGING SPRINGBOKS: M J Smith (Free State): D Kayser (Eastern Province). P Montgomeny (Western Province). P Montgomeny (Western Province). M Hearthricks (Boland). P Treu (South West Districts): L vois Rensburg (Gauteng). J Addison (North West): R Mempson (Natal), D Santton (Boland, Capt). N du Tolt (Boland). R Opperman (Free State). B Els (Free State). M Brosnihan (Gauteng). J Goettone (Free State). P Santi (Garqua). J Goettone (Free State). P Santi (Garqua) of Capt. Replacementer K Myhangh (Free State) for Addam. 20: K Maletana (Border) for Santin. 60; K Maletana (Border) for Smith. 60; L Campher (Northern Transvash) for Santon, 63; T Arendase (Western Province) for Santon, 63; T Arendase (Western Province) for Bostinan. 71.

man, 71.

BRITISH ISLES: T Stimpson (Newcastle and England). A Botaman (Richmond and Wales), M Greatwood (Recester), N Beat (Northampton and England). A Rott (Bart and England). A Realey (Lecester and England). G Rown-tree (Lécester and England). M Regam (Briston and England). J Leonard (Hartequirs and England). J Leonard (Hartequirs and England). A Realey (Lecester and England). J Devideon (London Irsh and England). J Devideon (London Irsh and England). R Walmarkett (Watsonams and Scotland). A Diprose (Saracers and England). N Back (Lecester and England).

Joiner's happy return,

## No job at Lord's for Hollioake

Cricket DAVID ILEWELLYN

There were ins and outs for England and Australia before a ball had even been bowled in anger in the second Test, which begins at Lord's tomorrow. The England management decided to do without the services of Adam Hollioake for the second match in succession. On this occasion, though, rather then hang on to him for 12th man duties and therefore rob his county of of him, they have allowed.

team mates at Worcester in time for today's County Championship match. The Middlesex left-arm spinner Phil Tufnell has been retained - a reversal of roles for Hollioake and Tufnell from the first Test - to give England the option of playing a second spin-ner in tandem with Robert Croft, but all the signs are that

the Surrey captain to join his

they would prefer to keep an unchanged team. Australia's record in Tests igainst England at headquarters this century is staggering. They have lost just once, in 1934. Yesterday they announced that Paul Reiffel would be playing in place of the injured pace bowler Jason Gillespie, who is recov-

ering from a hamstring strain. Australia's coach, Geoff Marsh, said: "Paul Reiffel has bowled well. He will play in the Test and, with his experience, it will be a bonus."

